



# Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan



*COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND*

*Ordinance 59-22 - Adopted July 5, 2022*

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**Special thanks to all of the community members who participated in meetings, completed surveys, and provided the County with input to create this plan.**

*Cover photo by Chesapeake Bay Program on Flickr.*



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Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary  
Source: Chesapeake Bay Program on Flickr



# Executive Summary

## Introduction

An updated Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) is required to be submitted by each County to the State of Maryland every five years. The 2022 round of LPPRPs is intended to provide a common benchmark to assist the State's evaluation of County land preservation and recreation programs, to ensure good return on public investment. LPPRPs qualify local governments for State Program Open Space (POS) grants, and include three elements:

- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (Chapter III);
- Agricultural Land Preservation (Chapter IV); and
- Natural Resource Conservation (Chapter V).

Upon adoption by the County Council, this LPPRP becomes an amendment to the Anne Arundel County General Development Plan. The LPPRP serves as a guide for park development, program improvements, and land preservation in Anne Arundel County. The Department of Recreation and Parks (the Department) was responsible for overall coordination of the LPPRP preparation and had primary responsibility for Chapters III and IV. The Office of Planning and Zoning provided input for the entire plan and had primary responsibility for Chapter V, with assistance from the Department of Public Works, Division of Watershed Ecosystem and Restoration Services.

Public input and stakeholder advice was solicited through a public online survey and a series of public "Town Hall" meetings. The LPPRP was published on the County's website in December of 2021, and public comments were solicited through March 2022. A compilation of public comments is provided in Appendix C.

The LPPRP was presented to the Anne Arundel County Planning Advisory Board (PAB) at public meetings on January 12, 2022, and January 26, 2022. The PAB endorsed the Plan and provided comments to the County Executive in a February 7, 2022-letter. The Board's letter is included in Appendix C.

In April of 2022, a Council Bill will be introduced to the County Council of Anne Arundel County. The purpose of this bill will be to repeal the 2017 LPPRP and adopt the 2022 LPPRP. The Council is expected to approve the legislation in June 2022.

Please refer to the full LPPRP document for more information and detail regarding the topics covered in this Executive Summary.

## Coronavirus Pandemic Impacts

On March 11, 2020, Anne Arundel County confirmed the first case of a resident infected by the COVID-19 virus. On that same day, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak to be a global pandemic. The outbreak resulted in stay-at-home orders, businesses closed and schools and workplaces moving to virtual platforms as health officials worked to stop the spread of the virus and care for those affected by it. The Department of Recreation and Parks was significantly impacted by and was part of the County's response to the suddenly different world. The Department's indoor recreation and swim centers were closed. Sports leagues and recreational programming canceled. The mission of DRP's School-Age Child Care program dramatically shifted as schools closed. Recognizing that the public would seek outdoor spaces as refuge, the Department immediately waived visitor fees at all parks and saw record attendance throughout the pandemic.

The effects of the pandemic on Anne Arundel County's preparation of this Plan must also be acknowledged. Public input to the LPPRP was made challenging by lockdowns and closures. There were no in-person meetings, only virtual sessions. The Departmental survey was conducted exclusively online. And the team of County and consultant parks professionals, architects, recreation specialists, cartographers and planners that assembled the LPPRP never met in person.

The notable positive impact of the pandemic was an increase in public awareness and use of the County's recreation and park system. Anne Arundel County parks and trails saw record use during 2020 and 2021 as people turned to their local, close-to-home parks, green spaces, and trails for essential physical and mental health benefits during the pandemic. As the National Recreation and Parks Association noted "the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted — and continues to highlight — what has been true for many years: parks and recreation is vital to ensuring that all people thrive. Parks and recreation provide essential services and infrastructure that advance equity, resiliency, and well-being."

## The Value of Parks

The Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks recognizes and embraces the value of providing, enhancing, and maintaining park and recreational programming that offers a wide variety of both active recreational experiences, primarily through individual and team sports and fitness, and diverse passive recreational opportunities including preserved natural, cultural, and historic areas and community social and gathering spaces. Our Mission Statement sums up this philosophy by stating the Department's purpose to "*Create Opportunities to Enjoy Life, Explore Nature and Restore Health and Well-being*".

The National Parks and Recreation Association has noted that there are three values that make parks and recreation systems essential services to communities - economic value, health and environmental benefits and social importance.

Just as water, sewer, and public safety are considered essential public services, parks are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in a community, ensuring the health of families and youth, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and a region.

There are no communities that pride themselves on their quality of life, promote themselves as a desirable location for businesses to relocate, or maintain that they are

environmental stewards of their natural resources, without such communities having a robust, active system of parks and recreation programs for public use and enjoyment.

## Economic Value

Parks improve the local tax base and increase property values. It is proven that private property values increase the closer such land is to parks. This increase in private property value due to the proximity to parks increases property tax revenues and improves local economies.

Parks and open space contributed positively to the property values of surrounding properties. One study from the National Recreation and Parks Association found that "[T]he real estate market consistently demonstrates that many people are willing to pay a larger amount for property located close to parks and open space areas than for a home that does not offer this amenity" and the availability of quality parks and recreation are frequently cited as one of the top reasons that businesses cite in making relocation decisions.

Parks and recreation programs generate revenue directly from fees and charges, but more importantly, provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies from sports tournaments and special events such as arts, music, and holiday festivals. Economic activity from hospitality expenditures, tourism, fuel, recreational equipment sales, and many other private sector businesses is of true and sustained value to local and regional economies.

## Health and Environmental Benefits

Parks are the places that people go to get healthy and stay. Parks, recreation programs, and services contribute to the health of children, youth, adults, and seniors. According to studies by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, creating, improving, and promoting places to be physically active can improve individual and overall community health.

Various studies have shown significant correlations to reductions in stress, lowered blood pressure, and perceived physical health to the length of stay in visits to parks.

Parks and protected public lands are proven to improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve air quality, provide vegetative buffers to development, preserve habitat for wildlife, and provide a place for children and families to connect with nature and recreate outdoors together.



## Social Importance

Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. They provide identity for residents and parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of livable communities. Parks provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages and economic status, regardless of their ability to pay for access.

Anne Arundel County residents participating in the Departmental Survey that informed this Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan were very much in favor of using public funds to acquire acreage for preservation of open spaces and natural resources. This mirrors reporting by the Trust for Public Land showing voter approval rates for bond measures to acquire parks and conserve open space exceeds 75%. The public clearly views parks as an essential priority for government spending.

Parks and recreation programs provide places for health and well-being that are accessible by persons of all ages and abilities. Nationally, community involvement in neighborhood parks is associated with lower levels of crime, vandalism, and juvenile delinquency.

Parks have a value to Anne Arundel County that transcends the amount of dollars invested or the revenues gained from fees. Our parks provide a sense of public pride and cohesion for all.

## Framework

### Physical Characteristics

Anne Arundel County comprises approximately 415 square miles (265,000 acres) in central Maryland. The County lies immediately west of the Chesapeake Bay, south of the City of Baltimore, and about 15 miles east of Washington DC. The Patapsco River and the Chesapeake Bay form the County's northern and eastern boundaries, and the Patuxent River serves as the western boundary. Major watersheds include the Little Patuxent River, Middle Patuxent River, Magothy River, Patapsco River, Severn River, South River and Upper Patuxent River. The County is in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, with relatively flat and gently rolling topography, and its streams and rivers are slow-moving, low-gradient waterways.

The County contains rolling countryside and farmland, suburban and urban communities, industrial centers, and

waterfront communities. Based on Land Use/Land Cover data provided by the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), resource land acreage declined from 62 percent of the County's land area in 1997 to 49 percent in 2010. County land cover data show that in 2020 (the most recent year for which data are available), 35 percent of the county was forested, 13 percent was agriculture or open space, and 5 percent was wetland or water. The County's extensive wetlands include both tidal and nontidal areas. Forty seven percent of the County was developed acreage in 2020.

### Demographics

As of 2019 (the most recent year for which data are available), Anne Arundel County's population was estimated to be 571,275, a 6.3 percent increase since 2010. The County is expected to grow by more than 10 percent by 2040, reaching a projected population of 634,000.<sup>1</sup> Continued growth will result in increased demand for recreation facilities and an increasing need to conserve contiguous areas of natural and agricultural resources.

The largest shares of growth are projected to take place in County Council District 1 in the northern part of Anne Arundel, followed by District 3 and District 5 in the east. The lowest increase is projected in District 7 in the south.

As the County's population grows, its age distribution is projected to change (Table II-4). The major population increase will be in persons aged 65 and over. This group is projected to increase by more than 45,000 from 2019-2040, and will comprise 20 percent of the population in 2040, compared to 14 percent in 2019. The 20 to 64 age group will increase slightly in real numbers but decrease as proportion of the County population, from 61 percent to 55 percent during this period. The population age 19 and under is projected to increase by more than 13,500 persons, representing a slight decrease from 25 to 23 percent of the County population (Table II-4).

Projected changes in the age distribution of the County's population will result in stable demand for recreation services from the 0-19 age group, stable demand from the 20 to 64 age group, and strong and increasing demand from the 65 and over group.

### General Development Plan

The current comprehensive plan, Plan2040, was adopted in 2021. The overarching themes of Plan2040 that form the

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<sup>1</sup> Projections based on population projections created for Plan2040, aggregated to District level based on Traffic Analysis Zone's.

County's vision are:

- Resilient, environmentally sound, and sustainable communities
- New and improved infrastructure
- Strategic economic growth and redevelopment
- Community character
- Inclusive, equitable, and responsive government.

Key policies related to resource conservation include encouraging infill and redevelopment that is close to transit stations and connected to community attractions; preserving 80 percent of undeveloped land within the Priority Preservation Area (PPA), using the Rural and Agricultural land use designation as the primary planning mechanism for preserving the character of the County's Rural and Agricultural Policy Area, expanding the network of protected corridors of woodlands and open space, and protecting environmentally sensitive areas.

Policies specific to recreation and parks include prioritizing deficiencies and capitalizing on opportunities for shared use of community facilities, applying sustainable design principles in rehabilitation and creation of community facilities, and prioritizing investment in community facilities and services to reduce inequalities in underserved areas.

The Plan calls for continued concentration of higher density residential uses, and most industrial and commercial uses, in designated Targeted Development, Redevelopment, and Revitalization Areas. The County's designated conservation areas are largely contiguous in the southern and western parts of the County and provide a good basis for agricultural and natural resource land conservation.

## Recreation and Parks

### Inventory

Anne Arundel County, Annapolis, and the Anne Arundel County Board of Education provide approximately 10,130 acres of public park, recreation, and open space land. This includes 44 parks in Council District 1, 27 parks in Council District 2, 41 parks in Council District 3, 52 parks in Council District 4, 37 parks in Council District 5, 82 parks in Council District 6 (including the City of Annapolis), and 78 parks in Council District 7.

State park land available for recreational use totals approximately 1,867 acres, primarily in the Patapsco Valley State Park and Sandy Point State Park.

Access to waterways—the Chesapeake Bay, rivers, and major creeks—is very important to Anne Arundel County's residents and visitors. Most beaches, piers and boat ramps are owned by neighborhoods, private associations, or commercial businesses. The County contains six paved public boat ramps (three owned by the County, one by the State, and two by the City of Annapolis); 28 public "car top" boat launch areas; and three public beaches. Fishing, crabbing, and public water frontage is available at many public recreation areas. The County is working with the State of Maryland to identify and map potential "water trails" that connect numerous destinations along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The County is also evaluating the potential for primitive, paddle-in campsites within County land along the Patuxent River.

The County owns and manages ten long-distance trails in partnership with communities and state agencies. Most of these trails have sections still to be developed. Two new trail systems are in the conceptual or planning stages, South County trail system and Patapsco Greenway Trail. The County trail systems include increasing numbers of natural surface trails in such areas as the Bacon Ridge Natural Area. An 80-mile paddling trail on the Patuxent River is managed by the Patuxent River Commission. Annapolis has a 19-mile trail system, partially implemented, known as the Colonial Annapolis Maritime Route.

Land with a primary objective of natural resource protection is counted in the natural resource lands rather than in the park and recreation land; however, large areas of natural resource lands owned by the State and Federal governments are available for limited public recreation such as hiking and fishing. County and City of Annapolis natural resource lands total about 11,274 acres. The State of Maryland and the Federal government own about 15,160 acres of natural resource lands. The largest holding is the 8,850-acre Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge.

### CAPRA Certification

Anne Arundel County officially received certification through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), an arm of the National Recreation and Parks Association that "accredits park and recreation agencies for excellence in operation and service" (CAPRA website) in October 2020.

CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies and is a measure of an agency's overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. This mark of distinction indicates that an agency



has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety, and services.

Certification involved a five-year process that included three phases: development of the agency self-assessment report, onsite visitation by the Commission, and the Commission's review and decision. As part of the accreditation process, Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks had to demonstrate compliance with 151 recognized standards and document all policies and procedures.

Now that the agency is accredited, it must uphold the standards by submitting an annual report. The accreditation is reviewed again in five years.

## Evaluation of Needs

Future needs for recreation and parks were evaluated using several methods, including comparing Anne Arundel's inventory to national standards, evaluating the future population projections, the online survey, other local and state surveys, and the experience of Recreation and Parks staff in scheduling and maintaining its facilities. Input from these sources was reviewed in the context of previous LPPRPs, as well as insights gained from analysis of the distribution of park land throughout the County (Proximity Analysis) and its location in relation to areas of higher population density and greater levels of poverty (Equity Analysis).

### *Proximity and Equity Analysis*

The Proximity Analysis compares the location of the County's park and recreation facilities to the distribution of its population. Overall, Anne Arundel County provides a diverse and well-distributed system of parks and recreation facilities. Spatial gaps were found in some specific types of facilities, reflecting the County's geography and settlement patterns, as well as limited land availability and budget.

The Proximity Analysis suggests the following conclusions:

- A substantial portion of County residents are within ½ mile of at least one park or recreation facility. Notable gaps in relatively densely populated areas include north of Fort Meade, and near Hanover and Harmans.
- All of District 7 is within 5 miles of at least one park or recreation facility;
- Most of the County, except for District 1 and the western side of District 4, is reasonably close to public water access facilities. The relative lack of such access in the west side of the County is largely a function of geography.

- Most of the County (except for a portion of District 7 and small portions of west District 4 and eastern District 3) is within 5 miles of one or more existing or planned regional trails. The County's most heavily populated areas (i.e., Annapolis, Glen Burnie, Severna Park, Odenton, and Crofton), are generally within ½ mile of at least one such trail
- Athletic fields and indoor recreation facilities tend to be clustered, leaving gaps throughout the County—most notably in relatively densely populated areas in parts of District 1 and District 4.

The Park Equity Analysis evaluates the degree to which parks and recreation facilities are accessible to populations that are typically underserved by such resources, including areas of high population density, high concentrations of poverty, and high concentrations of children. Areas identified as having the greatest need for park and recreation facilities (i.e., the areas of High and Medium-High Need) include:

- Annapolis-Parole;
- East of Ferndale;
- Areas north of Fort Meade and south of Severn;
- Glen Burnie and areas to the south;
- South of Jessup; and
- Laurel-Maryland City

These areas are generally home to the County's highest population density and lowest-income residents. This is consistent with the Proximity Analysis, which also showed gaps for certain kinds of facilities (i.e., athletic fields, water access) in these areas.

Age is also an important equity consideration in the County's recreational facilities and programming. In addition to ensuring that facilities are physically accessible to older populations, the Department offers numerous senior recreation programs at swim centers and indoor recreation facilities.

### *Guiding Policies*

The LPPRP's policies to guide capital project recommendations are provided below in summary form:

1. Make the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing parks a priority over the development of new parks. Included in these efforts are removing barriers and altering existing facilities as required to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. Fixing parking deficiencies at existing parks and recreation facilities is a priority.

3. Increase facilities supply by enhancing existing assets rather than developing new assets.
4. Prioritize the development of indoor sports facilities to meet the demand for indoor basketball and other indoor/court sports. This could include enhancement of facilities at existing schools or, where fiscally justified, construction of new community recreation centers.
5. Complete the development of the planned trails and emphasize the construction of small connectors, such as those between trails and schools or other common destinations for non-motorized travelers. Trail development will be consistent with other County planning efforts, specifically as aligned with the Green Infrastructure Plan.
6. When identifying new parks and recreation facilities, emphasize locations that address gaps identified by the Proximity Analysis and Park Equity Analysis.
7. As new facilities are built or rehabilitated, the principles of sustainable design, green building, and landscape technologies will be applied to the extent feasible.
8. School Recreation Parks are an important component of the County's parks and recreation system.
9. Public-private partnerships may be a suitable way to develop some kinds of recreation facilities, including reuse/adaptation of existing buildings.
10. Addressing the recreation and related health needs of the County's growing senior population is an important priority.
11. Continue efforts to identify, evaluate and protect agricultural, natural resources and open land for conservation and protection.

## Investment Priorities

The County's priorities for recreation and park facility investment fall into three categories, as described below: Acquisition and Development; Facility Development; and Facility Rehabilitation.

### *Acquisition and Development Projects*

Land acquisition and development projects total approximately 680 acres in 11 projects. Approximately 180 acres would be for specific recreation projects. The three largest recreation project acquisitions would be 50 acres for a new athletic complex in the western portion of the County, 30 acres for a community park in Glen Burnie, and 30 acres for acquiring land adjacent to Jessup Park. This athletic complex is envisioned as having multi-use athletic facilities suitable for supporting recreational league play and tournaments.

Approximately 20 acres would be for acquisition and a feasibility study for an outdoor water park, and another 20 acres would be for acquisition of land for the Linthicum BWI Athletic Fields in Council District 1. Approximately 10 acres would be for land on which to develop multi-generational use recreation facilities in Deale and Maryland City. Five (5) acres will be required for a Countywide indoor sports facility and another 15 acres will be needed to expand the West County Community Park.

The remaining 500 acres would be for the multi-year Greenways, Parkland, and Open Space Acquisition program. This program potentially satisfies multiple objectives: addresses local or state Greenway objectives, protects sensitive natural resources, provides an addition to an existing park/trail and/or satisfies County park, recreation and preservation needs as identified in one or more of the following plans: the LPPRP, the Green Infrastructure Plan, Plan2040, and the Regional Plans.

In addition, the City of Annapolis has identified two areas for possible acquisitions: right-of-way acquisitions to complete the City of Annapolis trail network, and acquisition of the 5.17-acre site of the former Carr's Beach parcel to create a new park.

### *Facility Development Projects*

Facility development projects are on land already owned or leased by the County, the Board of Education, or the City of Annapolis, or where no additional land acquisition would be required. The recommendations include 44 projects. Highlights include the following:

Development or completion of a multi-generational community center in Brooklyn Heights Park, replacement of the North and South County Recreation Centers, a recreational site at the former home of the Crownsville Hospital, and the West County Swim Center.

Development of new recreation amenities at South Shore Park, Millersville Park, Northwest Area Parks (within the impact area of the Maryland Live Casino), Odenton Community Park, Solley Cove Park, Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy, and Stoney Creek Park.

New development or additions/upgrades of athletic fields and related park facilities at Broadneck Park, Brooklyn Park MS Complex, Brooklyn Heights Park, Central Avenue Park, Glen Burnie Area, Lake Shore Athletic Complex, North Arundel Aquatic Center, South County Athletic Fields, and Tanyard Springs Park.

Passive recreation development at Bacon Ridge Natural Area, Bay Head Park, Beverly Triton Nature Park, Carrs Wharf, and South River Farm Park.

Trail development for Broadneck Peninsula Trail, South Shore Trail, WB&A Trail, and feasibility studies for a Lake Shore Trail and a Mayo-Edgewater Trail.

Countywide and programmatic projects including construction of additional boat ramps; feasibility and public support study for an off-road ATV and bike facility, feasibility study for one outdoor track and field facility in the east, west, and south Council Districts, dog parks; and parking area enhancements.

In addition to the County and City projects described above, the City of Annapolis has identified the need for multi-modal access improvements to 5th Street at Spa Creek and bike access from Rte.450 to Navy Stadium. It has also identified a need for a study to determine a site for an outdoor fitness court, a feasibility study for paddle park, a joint project with the National Park Service to study public water access and alternative mobility, and to build a Parks Division headquarters at Truxtun Park.

### *Facility Rehabilitation*

A major component of the CIP over the next fifteen plus years will be the rehabilitation and replacement of existing facilities. This LPPRP includes:

- **Park Renovations.** This project allows for the repair or replacement of park elements such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, fencing, courts, roads, pathways, bleachers, backstops, and building repairs.
- **Individual Park Rehabilitation Projects.** Specific rehabilitation projects such as those at Lake Waterford are budgeted as individual capital projects to allow for rehabilitation or replacement of major elements that are too comprehensive to be covered under the Park Renovation account, or under operating budget appropriations.
- **Facility Lighting.** This project has typically been used to expand the number of lighted athletic fields; however, for the foreseeable future, it will primarily be used to replace lighting systems that are 30 to 40 years old.
- **Facility irrigation.** Facility irrigation funds all for upgrading, replacing, or adding irrigation on fields to include master control systems.
- **ADA Compliance.** Upgrade County park facilities for conformance with the American Disabilities Act.
- **School Park Outdoor Recreation.** School-Outdoor Recreation Facilities capital fund allows for the

rehabilitation or replacement of facilities shared by the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Board of Education. It can also be used to expand school-recreation areas.

- **Trail Resurfacing.** This capital project provides funds to restore and upgrade trails. Countywide trails are in need of major repairs and resurfacing, as well as rehabilitation and replacement of subsurface culverts. Many interior trails within County Parks have similar age-related deterioration.

The City of Annapolis also has several facility rehabilitation projects including:

- Restorations at Hawkins Cove and Truxtun Park
- Renovation at Pip Moyer Recreation Center, Truxtun Park, Water Works Park, and Weems-Whalen Field
- Re-development of Robert Eades Park
- Waterway improvements at Cheston Avenue, Four Street End Locations, 6th Street, and
- Improved access to Well Cover Public Waterfront

## **Relationship of Priorities to Needs**

The priorities outlined in this LPPRP respond directly to identified needs, as described in this section.

### *Acquisition & Conservation*

The acquisition program totals approximately 680 acres. Another 180 are required for specific recreation projects. The remaining 500 acres address other open space and green infrastructure objectives in the County. Land acquisitions are proposed in Council Districts 1, 2, 4, and 7, however, 73% of the proposed acquisitions are for Countywide projects.

### *Development*

The recommended development program responds to the recreation needs identified in the needs analysis, and specifically respond to the needs of each Council District.

Primary countywide development needs are for:

- **Trails:** New, updated, and maintained walking and biking trails is consistent throughout the survey. There seems to also be consensus around an expanding countywide trail system.
- **Multi-purpose fields.**
- **Water access** including Outdoor and indoor swimming as well as beach access for swimming.
- **Playgrounds.**



- Pickleball courts.
- Dog parks.

## Funding

The overall program has an estimated cost of approximately \$547 million. Over the 15-year period to 2036, the total program cost averages \$36.5 million per year. By comparison, the approved FY22 County Recreation and Parks capital budget is \$46.68 million. However, the intent of Table III–17 is to list all the desired projects in one place for use in developing future annual capital budget and CIPs. Table III–17 therefore contains more projects than will likely be completed through 2036. Over time, as priorities change, projects may move from the short range to the medium or long range or vice versa.

## Agricultural Land Preservation

Anne Arundel County has been an agricultural community for over 350 years. Agriculture continues to be an important component of the local economy, a key element of the landscape, and a defining aspect of Anne Arundel life, especially in South County. In 2017, the Census of Agriculture counted a little over 27,000 acres of land in farms in Anne Arundel County, down 4 percent from 28,100 acres in 2012. The number of farms increased from 381 in 2012 to 390 in 2017.

Leading crops in terms of acreage are hay, soybeans, and corn, respectively. In terms of market value of production, nursery, greenhouse products, flowers, and sod are the leading agricultural products, accounting for \$12.8 million of the \$18.2 million countywide production value.

The County has a goal to permanently preserve 20,000 acres of farm and productive forest land. As of May 2021, a total of 13,991 acres had been permanently preserved through the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program, the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF), and the State's Rural Legacy (RL) Program.

Most of the remaining agricultural lands as well as the land the County has preserved are in a relatively contiguous block in South County that lends itself to further preservation efforts. The County has a solid base of farmers and other landowners committed to preserving much of what remains of the County's agricultural and rural landscape.

The 2022 LPPRP discusses the extent to which progress has been made toward achievement of the agricultural land preservation program recommendations in the 2017 LPPRP.

With respect to agricultural land preservation, the 2017 LPPRP notes that the County has made progress towards its 20,000-acre goal, adding around 800 acres of permanently protected agricultural land since 2016 (the year of measurement for the 2017 LPPRP).

The pool of farmland in the County has continued to decline, albeit less rapidly than in previous LPPRP cycles. This raises the question of whether the 20,000-acre goal remains achievable.

The 2017 LPPRP concluded that the County's goal of achieving permanent preservation of 20,000 acres of farmland remained a reasonable goal to work towards, given the substantial amount of land already preserved, continued strong interest in agricultural preservation, the presence of de facto protected lands, and the pool of land that could potentially be protected.

Since 2017, the County has continued to fund land preservation. Sufficient acreage exists to potentially meet the 20,000-acre goal within the Priority Preservation Area (PPA) and Rural Legacy Area (RLA), and additional easements could also be purchased on eligible farmland outside the PPA/RLA.

The success of the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program has been validated by the State's decision to re-certify the County's agricultural land preservation program to 2023.

These findings, combined with the protections provided by the County's rural zoning and Growth Tiers show that the goal of 20,000 acres of permanently preserved farmland remains valid.

The County continues to strengthen consideration of agricultural economic development and marketing, largely through the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC). Managing and promoting agricultural and environmental programs are part of the AAEDC mission to serve business needs and to increase the County's economic base through job growth and investment.

With respect to adopting revised program regulations for the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program, the LPPRP notes that the current regulations date to 1999, and that updated regulations would enable the County to correct outdated code references and to put in place policies that have been discussed over the years or were recommended in Plan2040.

# Natural Resources Conservation

Natural resource lands contain forests, wetlands, floodplains, shorelines, streams, stream buffers, and other sensitive natural features.

## Land Conservation Framework

Plan2040, together with the Green Infrastructure Master Plan and the Region Plans that are being prepared, establish the countywide framework and foundation for integrating natural resources conservation and land use. This framework has five basic elements, as described below.

### *Direct Development to Designated Growth Areas*

Plan2040 identifies Targeted Development, Redevelopment, and Revitalization Areas that include the designated Glen Burnie, Odenton, and Parole Town Centers, Critical Economic areas around Thurgood Marshall Baltimore-Washington International Airport and Fort George G. Meade, and potential Transit-Oriented Development areas.

### *Designated Areas for Conservation*

Anne Arundel County has four designated conservation areas for land preservation:

- Green Infrastructure Network;
- Portions of the County Open Space Zoning District that are not within the Green Infrastructure Network that comprise conservation areas, parkland, and other open space;
- The Priority Preservation Area (PPA)<sup>2</sup>; and
- The Resource Conservation Area portions of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.

These areas overlap in ways that reinforce natural resource preservation goals. For example, much of the Green Infrastructure Network is also zoned Open Space, and the Growth Tier 4 areas are also within the Priority Preservation Area. The County's designated conservation areas, listed in the Designated Conservation Areas Section on page 118, total approximately 139,524 acres or approximately 53 percent of the County's land area. Development is not completely precluded in these conservation areas. Based on 2020 land cover data, approximately 21,700 acres (18.5 percent) within the designated conservation areas are developed. The County's designated conservation areas are generally consistent with the State's GreenPrint conservation priorities.

Within the designated conservation areas, approximately 48,870 acres of natural resource land in Anne Arundel County are protected through ownership (federal, state, or local), easement, open space zoning, or bog protection zoning. This acreage comprises 18 percent of the County's land area.

The Recreation and Open Space Inventory (see Appendix A) includes approximately 26,400 acres of natural resource land under federal, state, and local government ownership. Approximately 4,300 acres are protected by easements held by the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) or Maryland Historic Trust.

Six local land trusts have protected about 4,200 acres in the County, primarily by easements co-held with MET.

### *Green Infrastructure Conservation*

The County is updating the 2002 Greenways Master Plan with a Green Infrastructure Master Plan. The mapped Green Infrastructure Network covers approximately 107,000 acres or 41% of the County's land area. Approximately 70% of the Network has been conserved. Approximately 5,075 acres of land in the Network were conserved through public acquisition and voluntary conservation easements from 2010 - 2020.

### *Watershed Management*

The County has done an extensive amount of watershed planning especially in the Patuxent, South, and Severn River watersheds.

The Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration within the Department of Public Works:

- Administers the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)—Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, the Town Center Surface Water Monitoring Program, and the County's Biological Monitoring Program.
- Uses a watershed-based approach to restoring degraded stream systems, to improve stream and wetland function, water quality, aquatic, and riparian habitat. The program focuses on three key areas to meet State and Federal-mandated pollutant load reductions requirements: Stormwater Management Facility Retrofits; Storm Drain Outfall Repairs; and Stream and Wetland Restoration.
- Performs water quality monitoring; creates impervious and land cover datasets and other assessment data.

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2 The PPA was established in the 2009 GDP, and totals approximately 7,000 acres.

Information is compiled and housed in the GIS interfaced Watershed Management Tool (WMT).

### *Regulatory Protection*

Protective efforts supported by regulation include floodplain management, grading & sediment control, stormwater management, zoning regulations, Critical Area regulations, and subdivision and development regulations.

The Open Space zoning district covers approximately 37,000 acres, almost 14 percent of the County. Limited land uses are permitted in the Open Space district, including farming, for example, but excluding new residential development.

The Critical Area's Resource Conservation Area (RCA) provides additional protection to some 22,617 acres in Anne Arundel County. Approximately 12,500 acres, 57 percent of the RCA in Anne Arundel County,<sup>3</sup> is currently protected from development by ownership, easement, or zoning. An important aspect of the County's Critical Area Program is providing natural parks that give opportunities for people to interact with the environment without disturbing natural processes.

### **Special programs**

**Patuxent River Policy Plan:** The County is actively involved in watershed planning efforts for the Patuxent River. These efforts involve seven counties and many state and federal agencies, overseen by the Patuxent River Commission.

**The Patuxent River Greenway** is partially complete and will eventually connect land in portions of seven Maryland counties. The greenway will connect a variety of environmentally sensitive areas.

**The Severn River Commission**, a quasi-governmental organization created by Anne Arundel County and comprised of residents appointed by the local governments, which acts as an advisory body to state and local government on environmental matters within the Severn River Watershed.

**Anne Arundel County's Forestry Program** (housed within the Department of Inspections and Permits) administers the reforestation and afforestation requirements of the Critical Area Program, and the Maryland Forest Conservation Act. A component of this program is the coordination of voluntary reforestation projects with landowners and community associations.

**The County's Emergent (Marsh) Grass Re-Vegetation Program** provides wetland plants to communities and individuals for shoreline stabilization, beautification, habitat enhancement, and water quality improvement.

**Invasive Species Management:** The Division of Natural and Cultural Resources is the Departmental lead on invasive species management, in partnership with other County agencies. The division's current focus is on a multi-year effort to eradicate non-native phragmites, a perennial, aggressive wetland grass that outcompetes native plants and displaces native animals. This LPPRP retains the 2013 plan's recommendation that Anne Arundel County develop a comprehensive management plan to address NNI.

### **County Funding**

The County's Capital Budget and Program contains two primary natural resource land-related projects and programs:

- **Greenways, Park Land & Open Space (P400200):** a \$2.2 million appropriation in FY 2021 and approximately \$3.5 million per year for FY 2022 to FY 2026. The County uses this fund to acquire land for greenways, protecting sensitive natural resources, providing additions to existing parks or trails and/or preservation needs.
- **Shoreline erosion control for waterfront parks (P468700):** approximately \$3.66 million for FY 2021 and an average of \$525,000 per year from Fiscal Years 2022-2026.<sup>4</sup>

Funding for natural resources land conservation comes from a variety of sources, including County bonds, general funds, Program Open Space, state and federal grants, and developer contributions.

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<sup>3</sup> Parks, resource lands, agricultural easements, open space zoning; MET and MHT easements; and bog overlay zoning district – merged to avoid double counting.

<sup>4</sup> FY 2021 Adopted Current Expense Budget and Budget Message



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# Chapter I: Introduction

This chapter describes the purpose and context for preparing the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP), its objectives and legal framework.

## Purpose of the Plan

### Location

The State of Maryland requires that counties update Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plans (LPPRPs) every five years. The County's updated LPPRP must be adopted by the County and submitted to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) by July 1, 2022, at least 18 months prior to completion of the statewide Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan in early 2023.

LPPRPs support the State's 12 visions for planning in Maryland (see Chapter II) and also qualify local governments for State Program Open Space (POS) grants and other programs related to the plan's objectives for three land resource elements:

- Recreation and parks;
- Agricultural land preservation; and
- Natural resource conservation.

To achieve these purposes, this 2022 LPPRP:

- Describes progress in development of parks and recreation facilities, preservation of agricultural land and conservation of natural resources since the 2017 LPPRP;

- Identifies needs and priorities of current and future County residents for recreation;
- Evaluates State and County goals and objectives for the three land resource elements;
- Sets policy to guide decision-making related to recreation and land preservation during the planning horizon for this plan, 2022 to 2027, and beyond;
- Recommends changes to policies, plans and funding strategies to better implement goals; and
- Ensures that public investment in land preservation and recreation supports the County's General Development Plan, State planning policy, and State and local programs that influence land use and development.

Due to changing state priorities, the purpose of statewide and local LPPRPs has evolved over the years. This 2022 LPPRP has been developed in accordance with the final 2022 guidelines issued in May 2021 by MDP and DNR.

## Preparation of the Plan

Anne Arundel County government is responsible for the preparation of the LPPRP. The effort involved coordination between several County departments and offices. The Department of Recreation and Parks was responsible for overall coordination and had primary responsibility for preparation of the Plan.

The Office of Planning and Zoning provided input for the entire plan and the Department of Recreation and Parks



Geographic Information Systems (GIS) personnel provided mapping support.

The following agencies and organizations also contributed to the preparation of the plan:

- Department of Public Works
- Bureau of Engineering and Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration
- Anne Arundel County Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC)
- The City of Annapolis

## The LPPRP's Relationship to the Comprehensive Planning Process

This LPPRP is one of a series of companion plans, regulations, and guidance documents that form Anne Arundel County's planning program.

Chief among these documents is the Anne Arundel County General Development Plan<sup>5</sup> (GDP), Plan2040, which serves as the core of the County's land use planning program by establishing the overall policy framework for growth and development in the County. The other documents are described in the introduction to Plan2040 and listed in the County Code at § 18- 2-103. Some of these are directly related to the LPPRP:

- Region Plans: Plan2040 designated nine Region Areas to create new Region Plans that will replace the former 16 Small Area Plans.
- Sector Plans: plans that provide guidance for growth and development in specific geographic areas; these include the Odenton Town Center Master Plan and the Parole Urban Design Concept Plan.
- Functional Master Plans: plans that focus on a specific function of County government. Functional plans directly related to the LPPRP are the Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, and Green Infrastructure Master Plan, and the Annapolis, London Town, and South County Heritage Area Management Plan.

Upon adoption by the Anne Arundel County Council, this Plan will replace the 2017 LPPRP.

## Public Participation

Public participation has been a critical component of each five-year LPPRP cycle. The Department of Recreation and Parks has a long history of engaging the public in discussions relevant to the Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan specifically, as well as discussions of issues relevant to the LPPRP in general (i.e., recreation and park demands, facility conditions, as well as agricultural and natural resource preservation programs, funding, and techniques, among others).

For the 2022 LPPRP, the County used several methods to obtain public input on recreation and land preservation needs, and to update information garnered from previous and ongoing public meetings and other interactions. Public outreach methods used in this LPPRP included an online survey, town hall meetings with elected County officials in each District, and review of the draft 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan by the public and by various County boards and commissions. These methods are described in more detail below.

### Online Survey

The Department of Recreation and Parks initiated an internet-based opinion survey for the LPPRP in March 2021, with a closing date of May 15, 2021. The survey was created using MetroQuest, a format specifically designed to gather input on planning initiatives. For the first time, the survey was made available in both English and Spanish.

People were directed to the survey from the Parks and Recreation website. The survey was promoted using social media on the Recreation and Parks Department's Facebook (16,413 followers), Twitter (4,692 followers), Pinterest (147 followers), and Instagram (1,426 followers) accounts. The County Executive, each of the seven (7) County Council members, and the Office of Community Engagement and Constituent Services all supported the Department's efforts by also posting information of their social media channels. Public capital project meetings conducted by Recreation and Parks along with the Department of Public Works included survey information. The Office of Planning and Zoning similarly included notices and information about the survey and LPPRP in public outreach efforts on the Green Infrastructure Plan during its development. Printed "business cards" about the survey were distributed to visitors to Downs, Kinder Farm, Fort Smallwood, and Quiet Waters Parks, and the

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5 Anne Arundel calls its Comprehensive Plan the General Development Plan.

Arundel Olympic Swim Center and the North Arundel Aquatic Center. The survey was also promoted on Eye on Annapolis (a community news and events site), through the County Executive's e-newsletter with more than 6,700 recipients, and in an April 2021 email to County middle-schoolers and parents.

Over 2,800 responses were received, providing valuable input for this LPPRP. A summary of the survey can be found in Chapter III and all the survey results are included in Appendix C.

## Town Hall Meetings

In the second phase of public outreach for the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan the Department of Recreation and Parks, along with County Council members from each of the County's seven (7) Council Districts hosted a series of "Town Hall" listening sessions virtually using the Zoom platform. Those sessions were held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in June and July on the following dates:

- District 1: Hon. Sarah F. Lacey - June 10, 2021
- District 2: Hon. Allison M. Pickard - June 15, 2021
- District 3: Hon. Nathan Volke - July 8, 2021
- District 4: Hon. Andrew Pruski - June 17, 2021
- District 5: Hon. Amanda Fiedler - June 22, 2021
- District 6: Hon. Lisa D. B. Rodvien - July 13, 2021
- District 7: Hon. Jessica Haire - July 15, 2021

In total, the sessions were attended by 158 registered participants, and many offered comments and suggestions.

## Public Review and Comments

In December 2021, the draft 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan was posted online on the Department's website for public review and comment. In addition to the online posting, printed copies of the draft Plan were made available to the public at ten (10) staffed Recreation and Parks facilities, at 16 branch locations of the Anne Arundel County Public Library, and at seven (7) senior activities centers operated by the Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities. The availability of the draft and solicitation of public comments was again promoted using various online and social media platforms, as well as in a full-color ad in *The Capital* newspaper.

Another round of virtual public meetings, in the form of two (2) Countywide Town Hall meetings were held on February 15 and 24, 2022. Ninety (90) residents logged in to the first

meeting and 89 joined the second presentation. A summary of the comments provided during resident testimony in those meetings is included in Appendix C.

Recreation and Parks invited the public's written comments throughout the development and drafting of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan. Prior to the initial outreach efforts, the County created a special email account to receive resident's comments. A total of 190 residents provided their thoughts and suggestions to [LPPRP2022@aaacounty.org](mailto:LPPRP2022@aaacounty.org) during the one-year period March 1, 2021, to February 28, 2022. 173 people provided input during draft LPPRP review period (December 2021 - March 2022), and another 17 people commented during the earlier round of Town Hall meetings, in June and July 2021.

In addition to receiving public input via email, the Department of Recreation and Parks provided printed Public Comment Forms at each of the 33 locations around the County where the printed copies of the draft Plan were available for review. While no comments on the LPPRP were received through this process from the public-at-large, two constituencies advocating for additional recreation and parks facilities for pickleball in southern Anne Arundel County and for additional indoor swimming centers, submitted hundreds of Comment Forms. The email and written public comments received are provided in Appendix C.

## Review by Public Bodies

The Director of the Department of Recreation and Parks provided a draft of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan to the Chairpersons of various County Boards and Commissions, whose missions align with those of the Department. Each Chairperson was asked to review the LPPRP with their commissions and to provide comments. Those Boards included:

- Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board
- Agriculture, Farming, and Agritourism Commission
- Anne Arundel County Youth Advisory Council
- Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council
- Bicycle Advisory Commission
- Citizens Environmental Commission
- Commission on Disability Issues
- Partnership for Children, Youth and Families

The Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board and the Citizens Environmental Commission also requested and received briefings from DRP staff.

The Anne Arundel County Planning Advisory Board, Recreation Advisory Board, Youth Advisory Council, Citizens Environmental Commission, Commission on Disability Issues, and Bicycle Advisory Commission each provided written comments, which are included in Appendix C.

The Director also provided a copy of the draft Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan in December 2021 to the Mayor of the City of Annapolis for his review and comment. A letter from the Mayor is included in Appendix C.

The LPPRP was presented to the Anne Arundel County Planning Advisory Board (PAB) at public meetings on January 12, 2022, and January 26, 2022. The PAB endorsed the Plan and provided comments to the County Executive in a February 7, 2022-letter. The Board's letter is included in Appendix C.

The County's Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) was briefed on the draft LPPRP and its finding at its February 10, 2022, meeting and their comments were solicited. The RAB provided valuable input during preliminary drafts of the Plan and staff from the Department of Recreation and Parks met with RAB on multiple occasions to discuss the LPPRP. The RAB deliberated about the LPPRP during a public meeting on March 2, 2022. The Board voted to recommend the LPPRP to the County Council for review and adoption. The RAB commended the Department on the quality of the plan, the analysis it provides, and the direction it sets for the future. The RAB provided recommendations on this and future Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plans. The Recreation Advisory Board letter is included in Appendix C.

## Additional Input and Comments

In addition to the online survey and Town Hall meetings, there were several other sources for public input including:

- A specially created Middle School Recreation & Parks Survey was offered to students at all of the 19 County's middle schools. The survey was promoted by Anne Arundel County Public Schools via an email to more than 19,500 parents. The brief opinion survey asked the students about their favorite parks and their favorite recreational activities and provided the opportunity to tell Recreation and Parks the kinds of facilities and activities that the students would like to see in Anne Arundel County. A total of more than 400 responses were received.
- Comments from the Plan2040 public outreach activities that were pertinent to the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan.
- Comments received as part of the Green Infrastructure Plan revision effort that were pertinent to the LPPRP.

A summary of all of these comments is included in Appendix C.



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Yates Pond  
Source: Matthew Beziat on Flickr



# Chapter II: Framework

## Physical Characteristics

### Location

Anne Arundel County comprises approximately 415 square miles (265,000 acres) in central Maryland. The County lies immediately west of the Chesapeake Bay, south of the City of Baltimore, and about 15 miles east of Washington DC. Neighboring counties are Baltimore County to the north, Howard County to the northwest, Prince George's County immediately west and Calvert County to the south (Map II-1).

Diverse landmarks and natural features form the boundaries between Anne Arundel County and neighboring counties. The Patapsco River and the Chesapeake Bay form the County's northern and eastern boundaries. The Patuxent River extends for about 30 miles from Laurel to Calvert County and serves as the western boundary with Prince George's County. A CSX rail line extends along the northwest, separating Anne Arundel County from Howard and Baltimore Counties. To the south, the Anne Arundel-Calvert County line extends across rolling farmland from the Patuxent River to the Chesapeake Bay.

The County has approximately 530 linear miles of tidal shoreline and many thousands of acres of rolling countryside and farmland. Industrial centers and the MD 295/I-95 (Baltimore-Washington) corridor extend along the Howard County line. Picturesque waterfront communities are scattered along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries that form the eastern side of the County.

The County's 45 miles of scenic frontage along the Chesapeake Bay offer dramatic vistas and recreational

opportunities. Residents and visitors enjoy the Bay area for its seafood, boating, maritime industries, and water sports, as well as its cultural, historic, and scenic values. These resources comprise some of the unique characteristics of the County and are assets in sustaining a high quality of life and economic diversity.

### Land Cover

The County's Bureau of Watershed Protection and Restoration, part of the Department of Public Works, maintains a detailed countywide land cover database and associated mapping. The most recent data (based on 2020 satellite images) indicate that 53 percent of the County land is resource lands and 47 percent is developed lands - mostly residential. Approximately 34 percent of the County was forest (Table II-1 and Map II-2).

Based on Land Use/Land Cover (LULC) data provided by Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), resource land acreage declined from 62 percent of the County's land area in 1997 to 49 percent in 2010.

Anne Arundel County's land cover data (Table II-1) and the State's LULC data use different imagery sources, land cover categories, and interpretation methods. As a result, these two data sets cannot be directly compared on an acre-for-acre basis. For example, acreage considered "rural residential" by MDP may be considered "Open Space" (a category not available in the State analysis) or "forest" in the County's data.

Table II-1: **Land Cover, 2020**

	Acres	Percent of Total
<b>Resource Lands</b>		
Forest	96,358	35%
Open Space	17,272	6%
Pasture/Hay	8,316	3%
Row Crops	11,480	4%
Wetland	12,293	4%
Water	2,787	1%
Subtotal, Resource Lands	148,506	53%
<b>Developed Lands</b>		
Residential	96,685	35%
Non-residential	33,586	12%
Subtotal, Developed Lands	130,271	47%
<b>Total, All Land</b>	<b>278,777</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: Anne Arundel County

These discrepancies notwithstanding, the general trend in the last 20 years has been an increase in developed land and a decrease in forested land. As reported in the 2017 LPPRP, approximately 33,000 acres of resource land (almost entirely agricultural and forest land) were developed between 1997 and 2010, while residential land cover increased by 33 percent and non-residential land cover increased by 32 percent.

## Natural Resources

Environmentally sensitive areas occur throughout Anne Arundel County including stream systems, flood plains, wetlands, and the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.

### Topography

Anne Arundel County lies in the physiographic province known as the Atlantic Coastal Plain. Elevations in the County range from sea level along the shore of the Chesapeake Bay to more than 300 feet in the northwestern part of the county near Laurel.

Nearly level or gently sloping areas occupy large areas north of the Severn and Magothy Rivers, on the Deale-Shadyside flats and in the southwestern part of the County in the Patuxent River. The steepest areas are in a north-south section that runs through the central part of the County, where many small streams have cut deep V-shaped valleys into the soft unconsolidated materials of the coastal plain.

Broad alluvial terraces border large streams and rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay.

### Watersheds and Streams

The County is laced by a network of streams that carry runoff from different land uses to the waters of its many creeks and rivers. Because of its topography, with an extensive shoreline and numerous peninsulas, the County's streams tend to be short, first- and second-order, slow moving, low-gradient waterways. All of Anne Arundel County's streams originate within the County except for the Patapsco and the Little Patuxent Rivers. There are 12 major watersheds in the County, which are part of three larger tributary watersheds in the State: Patapsco/ Back River, Lower Western Shore and Patuxent (Table II-3, Map II-3, and Map II-4).

The largest watersheds entirely within the County are the Severn River and South River watersheds. The upper reaches of many streams in older, densely developed areas are enclosed in pipes or confined to man-made channels. However, the County is fortunate in that most of its streams and their riparian buffers remain intact. Stream buffers are important in controlling nutrient and sediment runoff, maintaining stream temperatures, and providing aquatic and wildlife habitat. The Jabez Branch in the Severn River watershed has been reported to be home to the only known naturally reproducing brook trout population in the Maryland coastal plain.<sup>6</sup>

Table II-2: **Watersheds**

Watershed	Acres
Bodkin Creek	5,034
Herring Bay	14,663
Little Patuxent	27,752
Lower Patuxent	3,217
Magothy River	22,802
Middle Patuxent	26,588
Patapsco Non-Tidal	15,282
Patapsco Tidal	30,852
Rhode River	8,764
Severn River	44,248
South River	36,166
Upper Patuxent	22,598
West River	7,297
<b>Total</b>	<b>265,263</b>

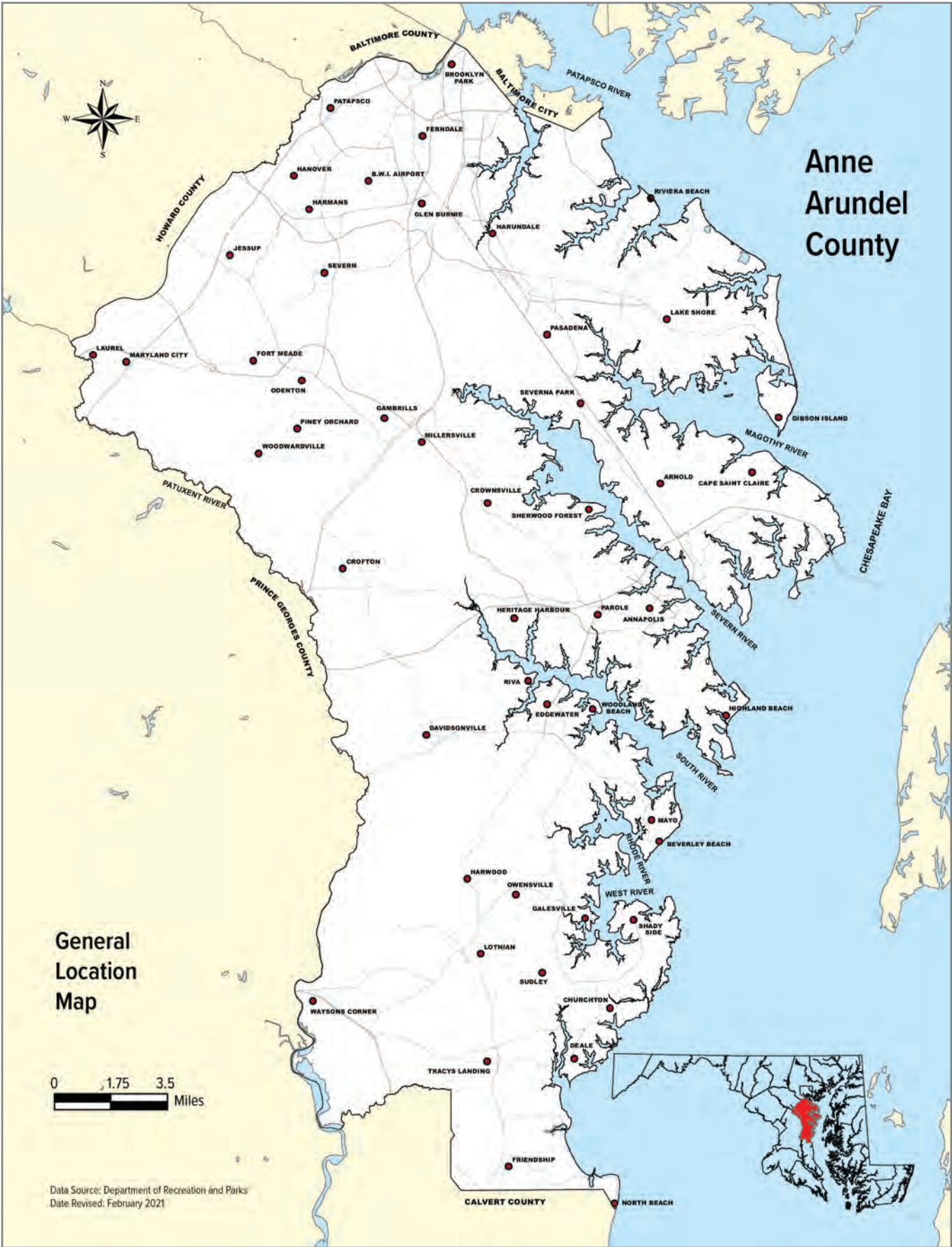
Source: AACO Major Watersheds GIS layer, 2019

Note: Total does not match Table II-1 due to differences in data sources and resolutions.

6 2006 Maryland Brook Trout Fisheries Management Plan, DNR Inland Fisheries Management Division



Map II-1: Location





Anne  
Arundel  
County



Resource Lands

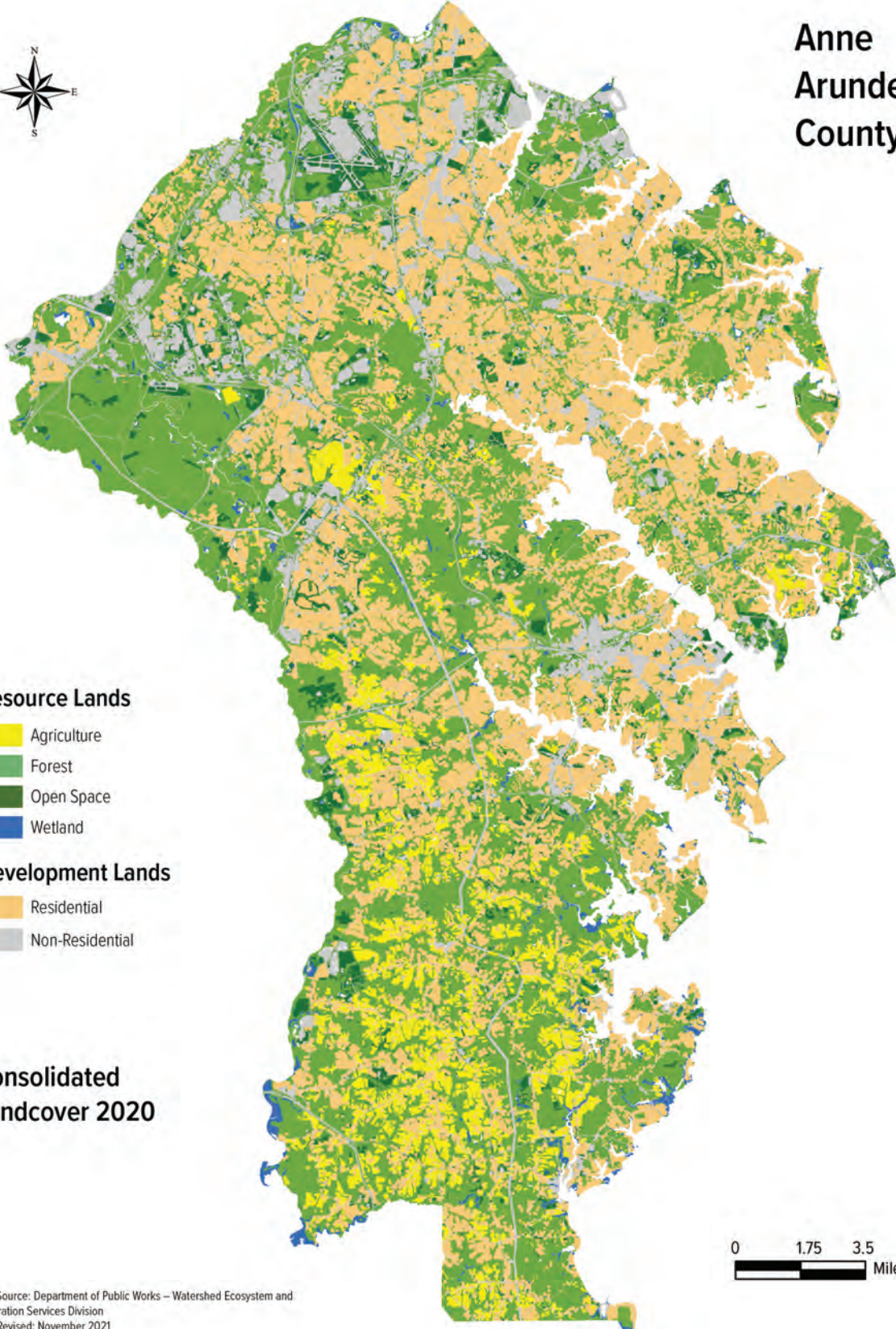
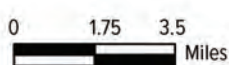
- Agriculture
- Forest
- Open Space
- Wetland

Development Lands

- Residential
- Non-Residential

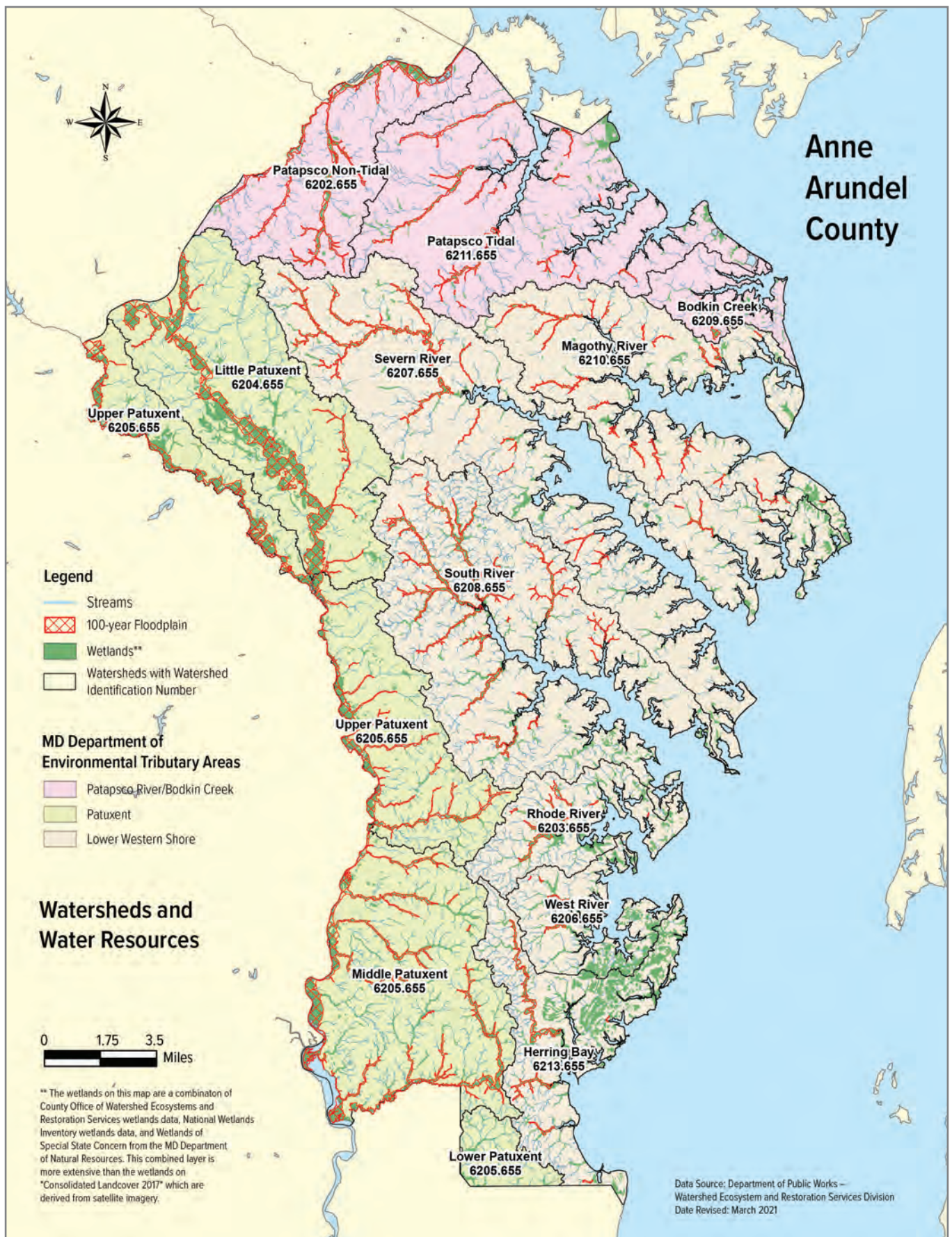
Consolidated  
Landcover 2020

Data Source: Department of Public Works – Watershed Ecosystem and  
Restoration Services Division  
Date Revised: November 2021



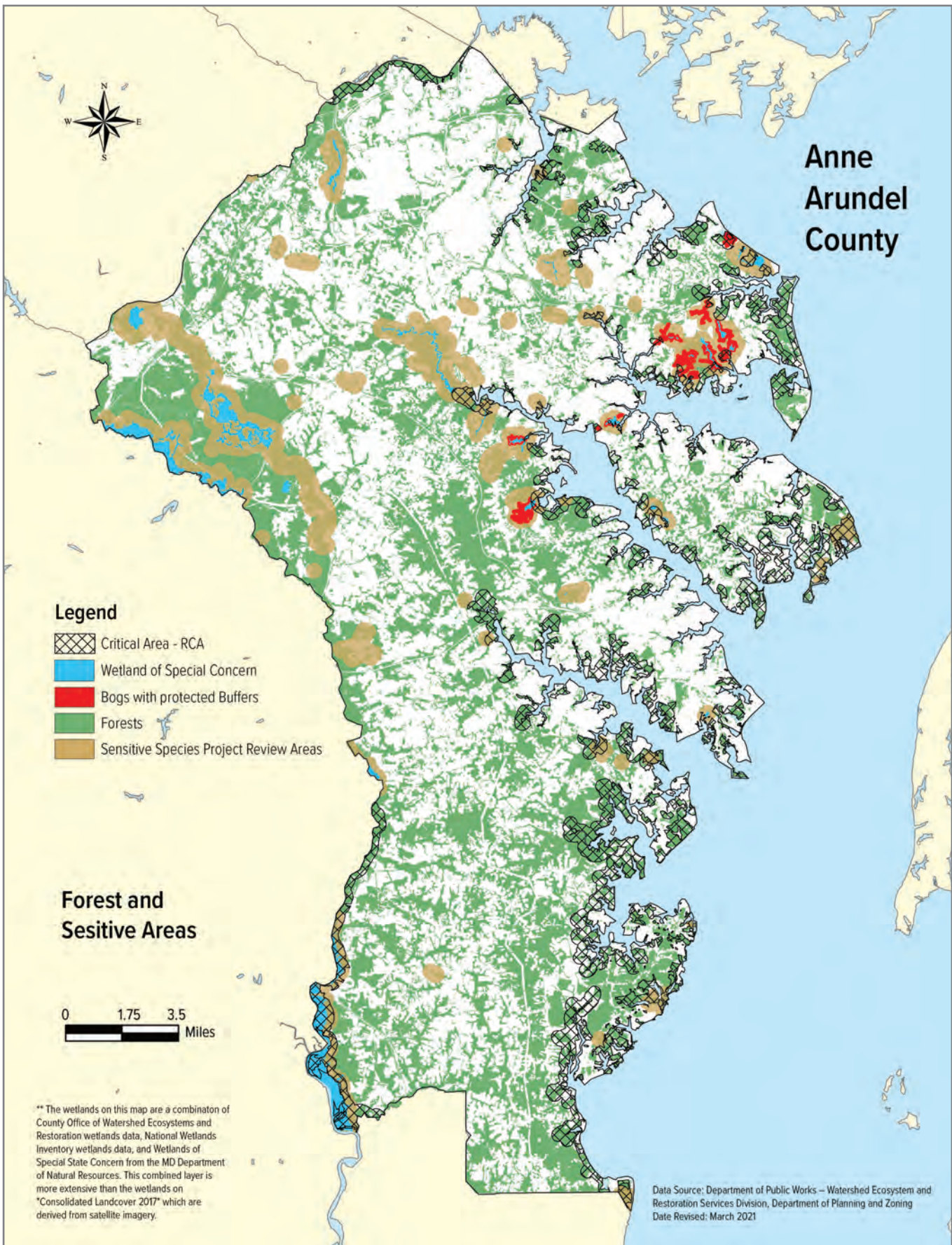


Map II-3: Watersheds and Water Resources





Map II-4: Woodlands, Sensitive Areas





## *Floodplains*

Floodplains play a vital role in absorbing increased volumes of runoff from developed areas. If constricted or reduced, their capacity to absorb stormwater runoff decreases, resulting in increased potential for flooding of property and roadways. It is therefore essential that floodplains be maintained in their natural state, not only to protect stream quality and habitat, but to enhance public safety. Figure 3 in the Plan2040: Background shows generalized 100-year floodplains and FEMA flood hazard zones.

## *Forest Land*

Forested land is an important component of the County's landscape, comprising 35 percent of the County's land cover in 2020 (Table II-1). Large contiguous forested areas are located along the Patuxent River, especially in the Patuxent Research Refuge; in the South River watershed; and in the northern section of the County near Marley Neck (Map II-2).

## *Tidal and Non-Tidal Wetlands*

Wetlands comprise approximately 12,400 acres, or 4 percent of the County's land cover, and bodies of water comprise another 2,800 acres (Table II-1).

Due to the extensive length of its shoreline, the County contains considerable areas of tidal wetlands (Map II-3). Tidal wetlands are an important component in the health of the Chesapeake Bay, are important to commercial and recreational fisheries, and provide numerous environmental benefits. Wetlands filter sediment and nutrients from upland runoff, control flooding and shoreline erosion, provide nurseries and valuable habitat for fish and aquatic life and absorb nutrients from the water column. Wetlands are protected through the implementation and enforcement of regulations by the Maryland Department of the Environment and by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Over one-half of all wetlands in the County are considered upland or non-tidal wetlands. Certain wetlands with rare, threatened, endangered species or unique habitat receive special attention. The Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) identifies these "Wetlands of Special State Concern" and affords them certain protections including a 100-foot buffer from development.

## *Bogs*

Bogs form in highly acidic areas of saturated soil and standing water, factors which limit the growth of all but a few highly specialized plants. Because decay is minimal, a layer of

peat accumulates beneath the bog vegetation. Many bogs are located in northerly areas, and they are also common in mountainous regions, including western Maryland. Bogs on the coastal plain are uncommon; however, Anne Arundel County has more than any other coastal plain county, both inside and outside the Critical Area (Map II-4).

Bogs are fragile areas, requiring unusually careful protection. Maintenance of stable, moist, and nutrient-poor conditions are basic considerations. Any influx of sediment or reduction of acidity may cause loss of the bog by invasion by common woody plants, and protection of surrounding watershed for some distance is essential to preservation of these unique sites. For this reason, Anne Arundel County has adopted regulations to protect bogs and their drainage areas. In addition, the County, along with State and local land trusts have protected considerable bog acreage by both fee simple land purchases and via conservation easements (see Chapter V).

## *Other Environmentally Sensitive Areas*

The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Program defines the Critical Area as all land and water within 1,000 feet of the landward extension of tidal waters or tidal wetlands and the heads of tide. This Critical Area comprises about 51,300 acres or 19 percent of the County. Map II-4 shows the Resource Conservation Area (RCA) portion of the Critical Area.

Sensitive Species Project Review Areas (SSPRAs) represent the general locations of documented rare, threatened, and endangered species listed under Maryland's Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Act. As of December 2016, 41 animals and 131 plants in Anne Arundel County are listed under the Act.

The majority of the SSPRAs are in northern Anne Arundel County, either along the Patuxent River or in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area (Map II-4).

## **Demographic Characteristics**

The 2010 Census reported Anne Arundel County's population at 537,656 (Table II-3). By 2019, the County population was estimated by the Census Bureau to have grown 6.3 percent to 571,275. The County is expected to experience growth of more than 10 percent over the next 20 years, reaching a projected population of 632,204 by 2040 (Table II-3).

The 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan divided the County into four Recreation Planning Areas—North, South, East, and West. This plan instead uses the seven Council District boundaries. Map II-5 shows the boundaries

of the seven Council Districts and Map II–6 shows the Region Plan Areas set by Plan2040.

In 2019 (the most recent estimates available) District 4 was the most populous with about 94,800 people and 17% of the County’s population. The populations decline from there with District 1 home to about 81,700 people or 14.3 percent; District 3 with about 80,700 people or 14.1 percent; District 7 and District 6 with 79,900 people or 14 percent each; District 2 with about 77,900 people and 13.6 percent, and District 5 with about 76,100 people and 13.3 percent of the population.

Countywide in 2019 the population was very slightly over 50 percent female and very slightly under 50 percent male. The population was 68 percent white, 16 percent Black or African American, 4 percent Asian, and 4 percent other races, and 8% Hispanic. The total non-white population increased from 28 percent in 2010 to 32 percent in 2019.

Median household incomes in the County vary considerably. Areas with the highest median household incomes in 2010 were in western Crownsville, western Severna Park, northern South County, eastern Crofton and eastern Broadneck. Areas with the lowest median household incomes were central Crownsville, western Odenton, southern South County,

eastern Jessup, Brooklyn Park, and northern Glen Burnie (areas shown on Map II–5).

The County is anticipated to grow by nearly 61,000 people between 2019 and 2040 (Table II–3). The largest shares of growth are projected to take place in District 1 in the northern part of Anne Arundel, followed by District 3 and District 5 in the east. The lowest increase is projected in District 7 in the south.

As the County’s population grows, its age distribution is projected to change (Table II–4). The major population increase will be in persons aged 65 and over. This group is projected to increase by more than 45,000 from 2019-2040, and will comprise 20 percent of the population in 2040, compared to 14 percent in 2019. The 20 to 64 age group will increase slightly in real numbers but decrease as proportion of the County population, from 61 percent to 55 percent during this period. The population age 19 and under is projected to increase by more than 13,500 persons, representing a slight decrease from 25 to 23 percent of the County population (Table II–4).

Anne Arundel’s shifting age distribution is similar to Maryland as a whole. The state is also expected to experience an

Table II–3: *County and Planning Area 2019 Population and 2040 Projections*

Council District	2019 Estimated		2040 Projected		2010-40 Projected Change	
	Population	Percent of Total	Population	Percent of Total	Population Change	Share of Countywide Change
District 1	81,732	14%	103,881	16%	22,149	35%
District 2	77,963	14%	84,604	13%	6,641	10%
District 3	80,697	14%	90,649	14%	9,952	16%
District 4	94,870	17%	101,830	16%	6,960	11%
District 5	76,152	13%	86,135	14%	9,983	16%
District 6	79,877	14%	84,825	13%	4,948	8%
District 7	79,984	14%	82,854	13%	2,870	5%
Total County	<b>571,275</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>634,778*</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>63,503</b>	<b>100%</b>

Sources: US Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2016 - 2019 Estimates

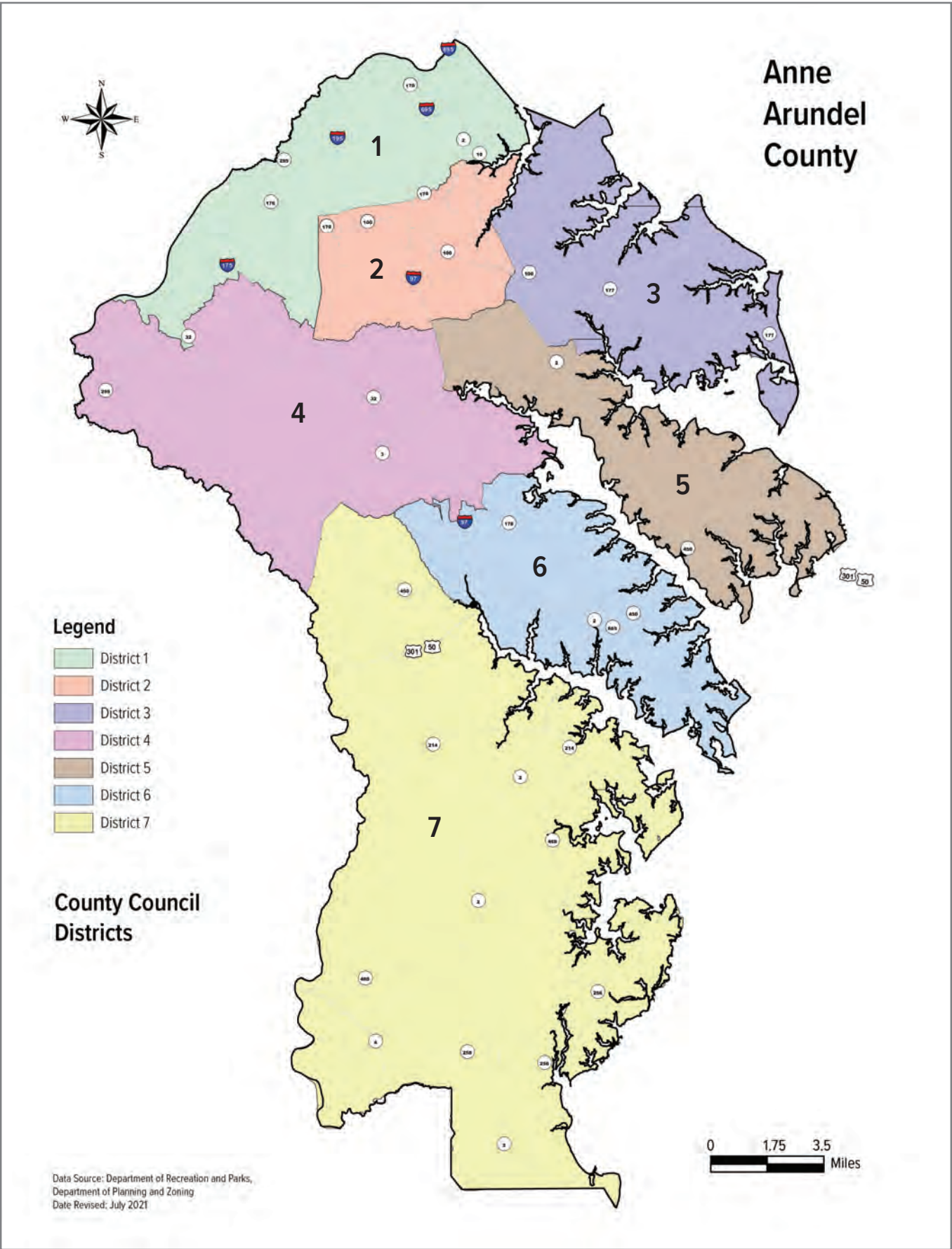
\* Estimate from Plan2040 population projections, aggregated from Traffic Analysis Zones.

Table II–4: *Population by Age, Anne Arundel County and Maryland*

Age	2019 Estimated		2040 Projected		2019-40 Projected Change	
	Population	Percent of Total	Population	Percent of Total	Population	Share of Countywide Change
0-19	140,748	25%	154,469	24%	13,721	23%
20 to 64	348,246	61%	350,199	55%	1,953	3%
65+	82,281	14%	127,536	20%	45,255	74%
Total County	<b>571,275</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>632,204*</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>60,929</b>	<b>100%</b>

Sources: US Census Bureau; American Community Survey 2016 - 2019 Estimates. \* Projection slightly differs from Table II-3-- data comes from the US Census Bureau, Maryland Department of Planning Round 9A Population Projections, December, 2020.

Map II-5: Council Districts



increase in the 65+ population from 15 percent of the total population in 2019 to 21 percent in 2040.

## Comprehensive Plan Framework

### General Planning Strategy and Context

The County's current Comprehensive Plan, Plan2040, was adopted in 2021. In Anne Arundel County the comprehensive plan is called the General Development Plan (GDP). Plan2040 includes four sections: Planning for the Natural Environment, Planning for the Built Environment, Planning for Healthy Communities, and Planning for a Healthy Economy. Plan2040 also proposes a Priority Preservation Area in accordance with State requirements for agricultural land preservation. The following are the overarching themes of Plan2040 that collectively form the County's community vision:

- Resilient, environmentally sound, and sustainable communities
- New and improved infrastructure
- Strategic economic growth and redevelopment
- Community character
- Inclusive, equitable, and responsive government.

To realize this vision the plan makes several key policy recommendations in different plan chapters with respect to recreation, growth and land preservation, and conservation:

- Protect environmentally sensitive areas in the County's Critical Areas. (Policy NE1.2)
- Protect, enhance, and create living shorelines and nearshore habitat. (Policy NE1.3)
- Reduce the use of pesticides that are known to impact wildlife habitat, human health, and water quality. (Policy NE1.5)
- Expand the amount of forest and tree canopy cover across all watersheds. (Policy NE2.1)
- Increase the amount of protected land in the County. (Policy NE3.1)
- Continue expanding the network of protected corridors of woodlands and open space as set forth in the Greenways Master Plan. (Policy NE3.2)
- Preserve 80 percent of undeveloped land within the PPA through protective easements in order to meet the State's PPA protection goal. (Policy NE3.3)
- Encourage use of vacant or underutilized County-owned surplus properties to support environmental conservation and community benefit. (Policy BE1.5)

- Maintain limited development patterns compatible with and intrinsic to the rural parts of the County by using the Rural and Agricultural land use designation as the primary planning mechanism for preserving the character of the County's Rural and Agricultural Policy Area. Limit development to rural densities beyond the boundary of County's public sewer service area. (Policy BE2.1)
- Prioritize protection of sensitive environmental features on County peninsulas during long range planning efforts. (Policy BE4.1)
- Ensure that adequate infrastructure capacity exists prior to or concurrently with development through enforcement of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance requirements and by prioritizing necessary capital investments and infrastructure improvements that supports redevelopment and development in the Targeted Development, Redevelopment and Revitalization Policy Areas. (Policy BE5.2)
- Provide clear regulatory standards with flexibility to support high-quality design and incentives scaled to promote mixed-use development and redevelopment; and provide people-centered amenities and a built environment that will enhance community quality and sustainability. (Policy BE7.1)
- Encourage and facilitate mixed-use development and redevelopment around transit stations, that is compatible with the surrounding community and provides connections to employment centers, community attractions and residential areas. (Policy BE9.1)
- Adopt land use policies and plans that prioritize and incentivize development and revitalization of grayfields and brownfields properties over new greenfields development. (BE13.4)
- Develop and strengthen planning and protection measures for historic and archaeological resources and incorporate historic preservation effectively into planning and policy decision-making. (Policy BE14.1)
- Promote the stewardship of historic resources and County-owned archaeological collections and encourage the adaptive re-use of historic properties and the preservation of historic and cultural landscapes. (Policy BE14.3)
- Provide a transportation network that is environmentally sensitive and resilient. (BE15.3)
- Establish systems in the County government to integrate climate change considerations across County functions. (Policy BE16.1)



- Prioritize deficiencies and capitalize on opportunities for shared use in the renovation and construction of community facilities. (HC1.1)
- Apply sustainable design principles in rehabilitation of existing facilities and creation of new community facilities. (Policy HC1.2)
- Prioritize investing in community facilities and services to reduce inequalities in underserved areas and provide equal opportunities throughout the County. (Policy HC1.3)
- Recreation and parks should be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities. (Policy HC8.1)
- Improve and expand recreational opportunities for all communities to have facilities and programs nearby. (Policy HC8.2)
- Direct development and redevelopment to Targeted Development, Redevelopment and Revitalization Policy Areas. (Policy HE1.2)

This list captures the policies that are most relevant to the LPPRP.

The Plan2040 Land Use Plan is shown on Map II–7. Higher density residential and most industrial and commercial uses are concentrated in the northern parts of the County and in Odenton and Glen Bernie. Rural land use covers much of the Crownsville area and nearly all of South County with the exception of a few communities.

Plan2040 has two documents - Volume I and Volume II. Volume I summarizes all the challenges, opportunities, goals, and policies for each chapter. Background for each chapter is in Volume II. The goals, policies, and action items that are relevant to this LPPRP are discussed in Chapters III, IV, and V.

Map II–8, which is taken from the Plan2040, shows the County’ Development Policy Areas, which were defined to concentrate development, redevelopment and revitalization in targeted areas. These policy areas are designated in the Land Use Plan as appropriate for a particular range of future land uses and public facilities. The six Development Policy Areas defined in Plan2040 are Rural and Agricultural Policy Areas; Peninsula Policy Areas; Neighborhood Preservation Policy Areas; Critical Corridor Policy Areas; and Targeted Developments, Redevelopment, and Revitalization Policy Areas (Growth Areas). The Targeted Development, Redevelopment, and Revitalization Policy Areas (Growth Areas) include Critical Economic Areas and Town Center Areas. There are also two Overlay Areas -- Transit-Oriented and Village Center.

Map II–9, shows the County’s Priority Funding Areas (PFAs). These are existing communities or other locally designated areas where public water and sewer utilities are available and density requirements are met. Not all of the PFAs are coterminous with the County’s “target growth areas”. Most of the County’s PFAs are located in established communities within the Neighborhood Preservations Policy Area where State funding should be targeted to preserve and revitalize these communities rather than to support future growth.

## Region Plan Areas

Plan2040 sets up a process to prepare community-level comprehensive plans for nine Regions within the County (see Map II–6). The Region Planning process recognizes the variety of needs in different areas of the County and provides more opportunity for residents to participate in planning for the future of their communities. The Region Plans will align with the Goals and Policies of Plan2040 and build on the Small Area Plans prepared between 1998 to 2004. Each Region Plan is expected to include action strategies to address elements specific to each Region, such as parks and open space, agriculture, sea level rise, mobility, equity, and accessibility. Preparation of the Region Plans will be staggered over time based on the schedule adopted in Plan2040.

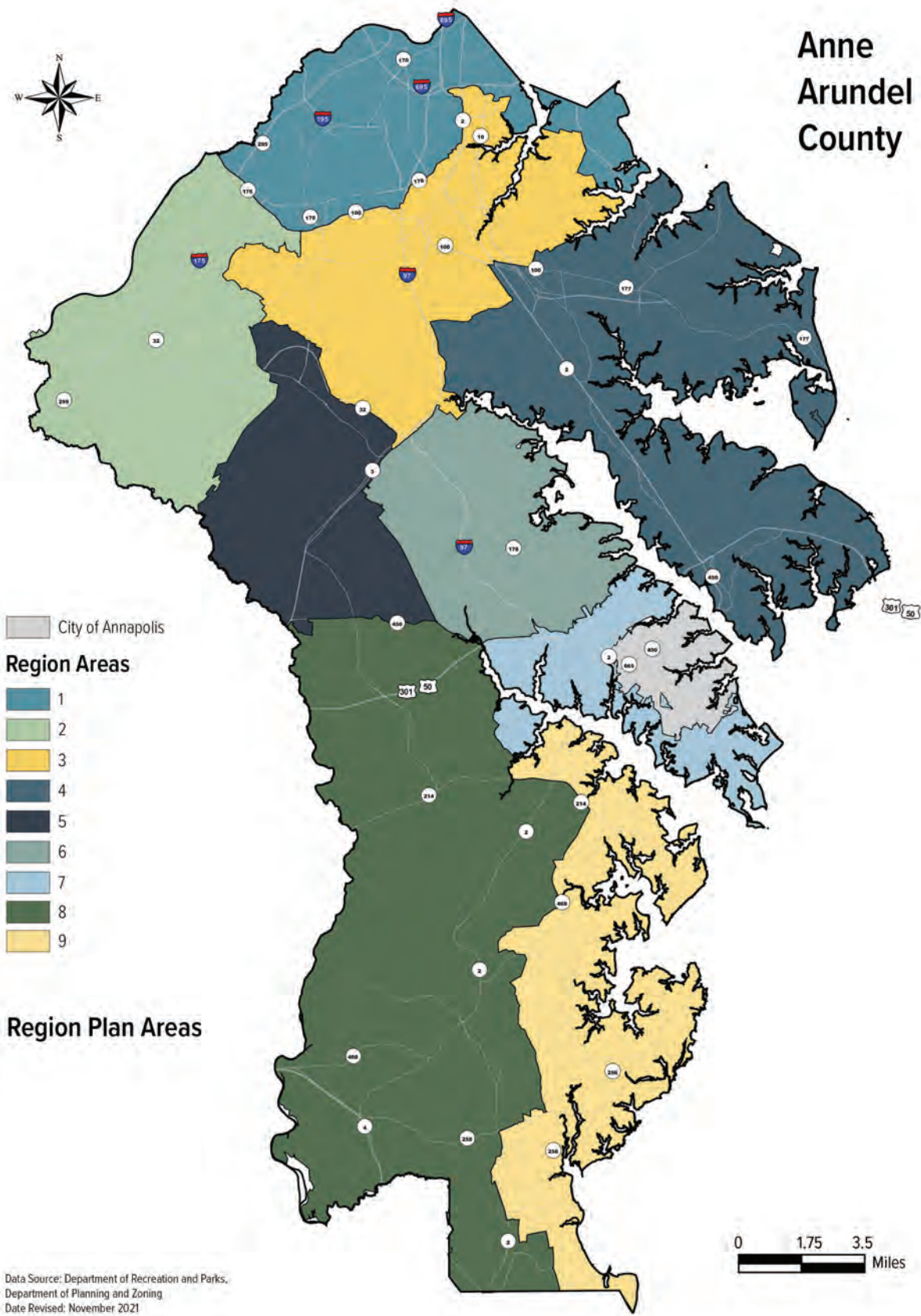
## Designated Conservation Areas

The LPPRP recognizes four designated conservation areas within Anne Arundel County (Map II–10):

- The Resource Conservation Area portions of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.
- The Priority Preservation Area.
- Green Infrastructure Network from the County’s Green Infrastructure Master Plan.
- Portions of the County Open Space Zoning District that are not within the Greenways Network that comprise conservation areas, parkland, and other open space. Open space zoning is a mapped zoning district in Anne Arundel County comprising 100-year floodplains, wetlands, parkland, and other open space.

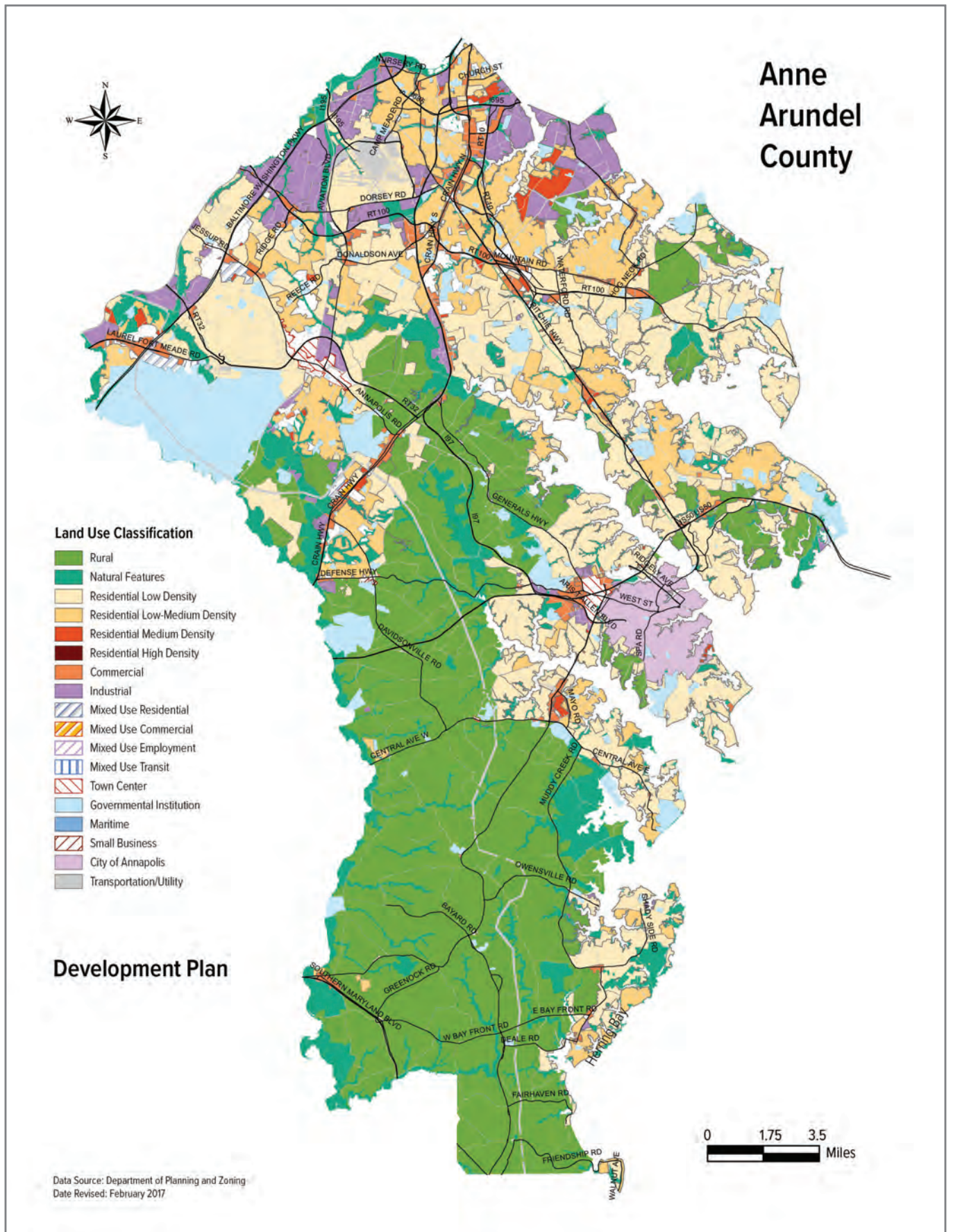
These designated areas overlap in ways that reinforce the conservation goals. For example, much of the adopted Greenways is also zoned Open Space, and the Growth Tier 4 areas are also within the Priority Preservation Area. Map II-9 only shows the areas with Open Space zoning that are not designated in another category.

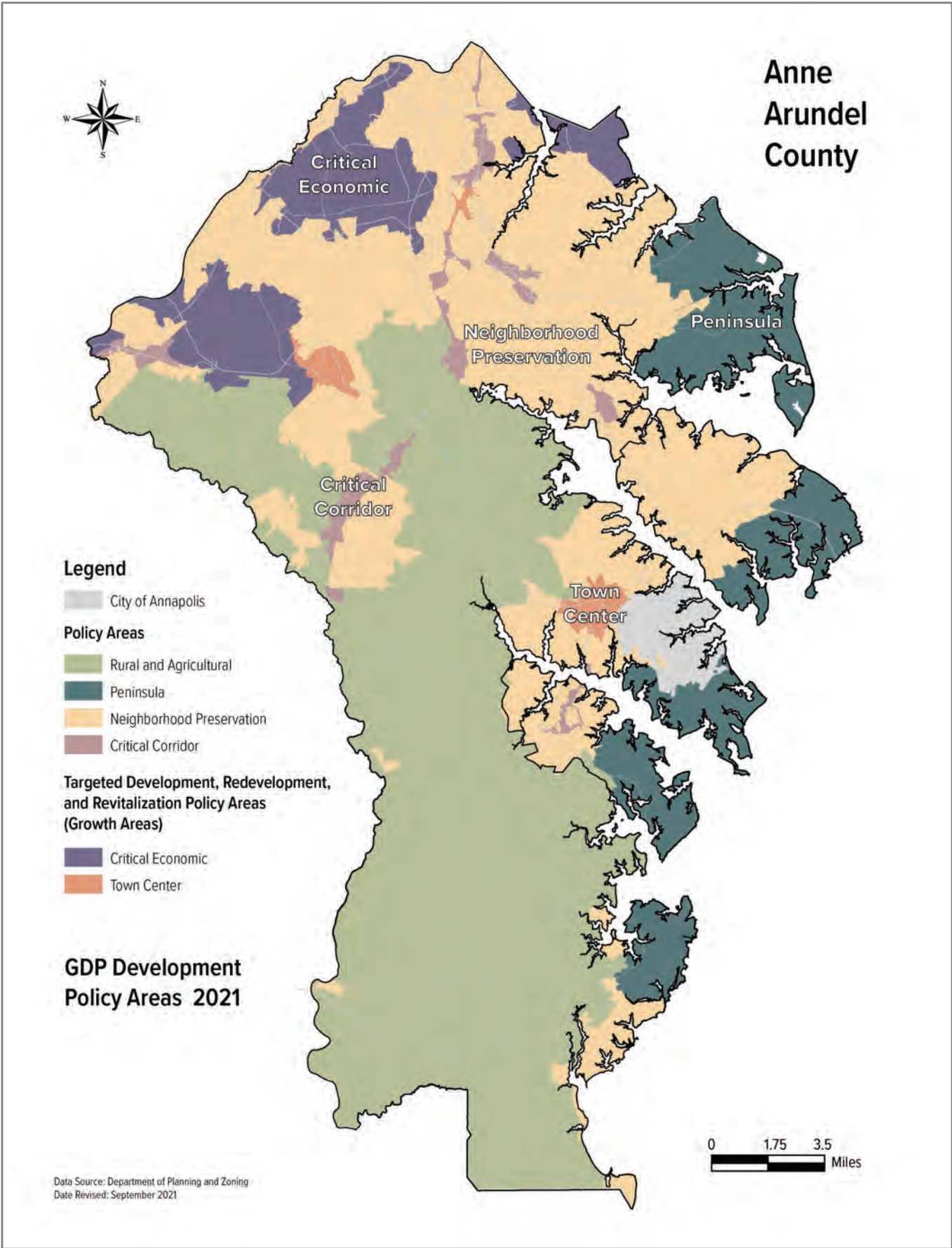
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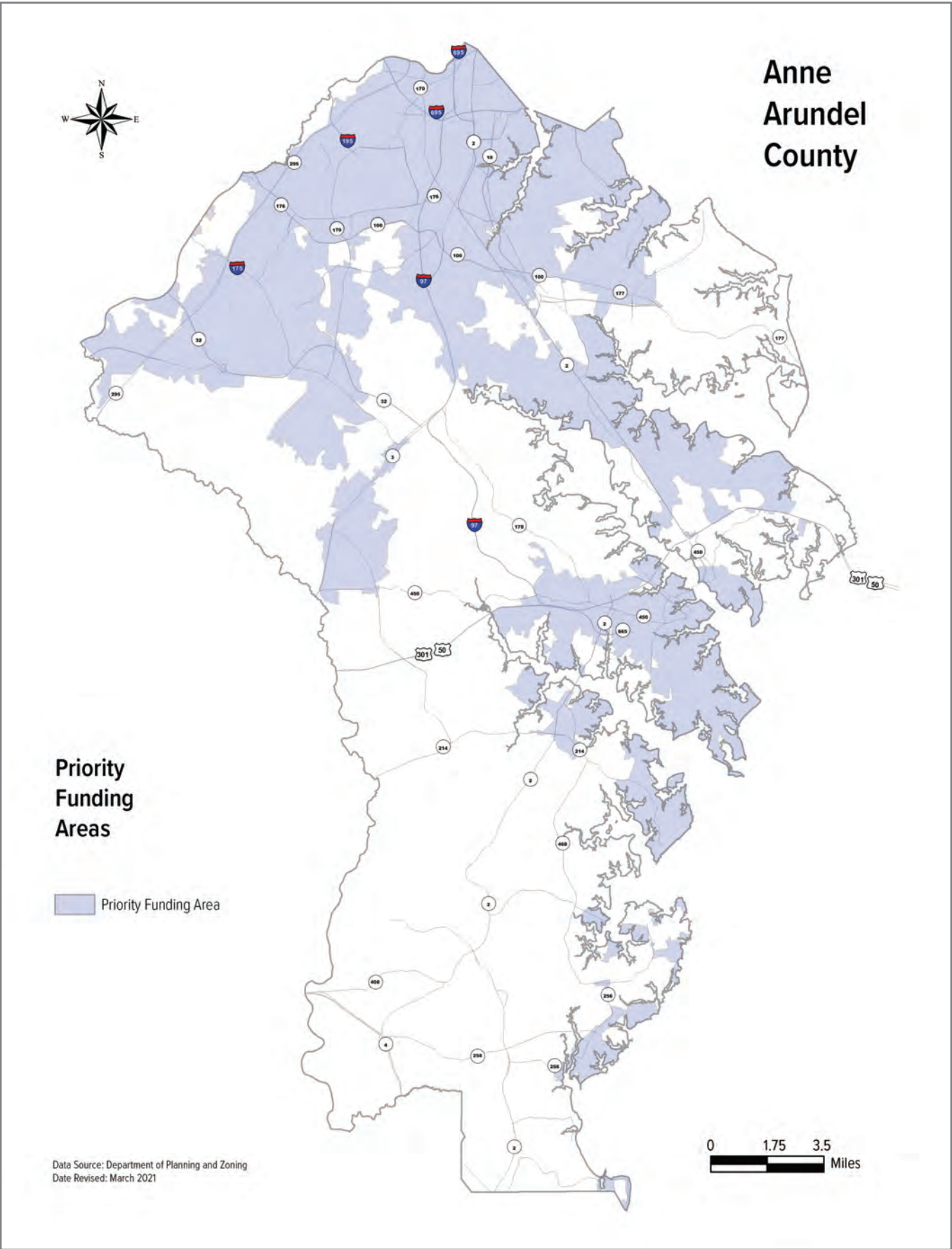
Map II-7: General Development Plan Land Use











Map II-9: Priority Funding Areas



Anne  
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County

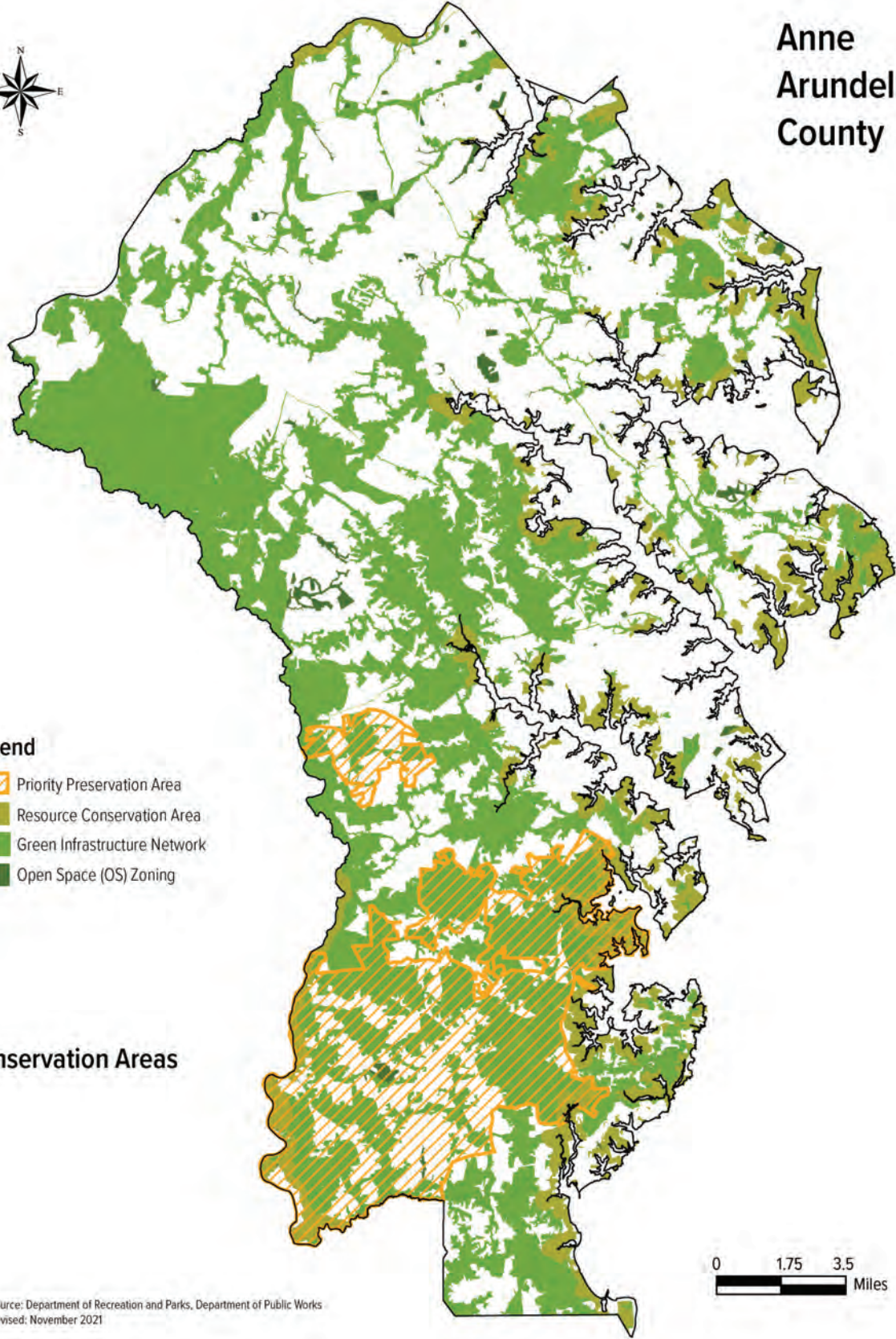
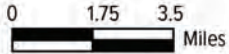


Legend

-  Priority Preservation Area
-  Resource Conservation Area
-  Green Infrastructure Network
-  Open Space (OS) Zoning

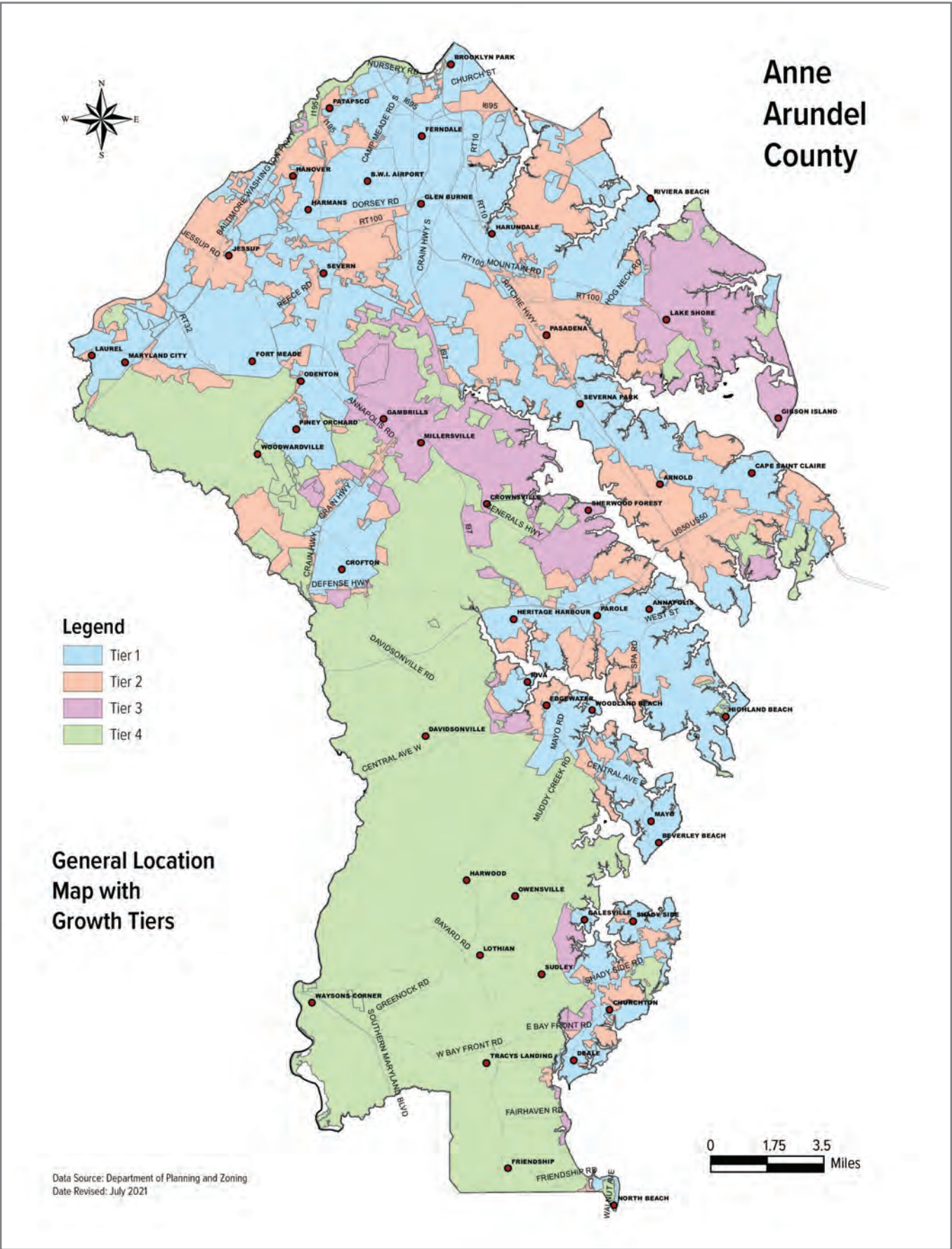
Conservation Areas

Data Source: Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Public Works  
Date Revised: November 2021





Map II-11: Growth Tiers





The County's Growth Tier 4 area, designated in response to the Maryland's Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 (see Map II-10), identifies a large portion of the County where only minor subdivisions (five lots or less) are permitted. Although not a designated "conservation area", the Growth Tier 4 designation, along with the RA zoning district reduces the amount of agricultural and natural resource land that could be converted to development.

These areas are discussed in more detail in Chapters IV and V.

## The LPPRP's Relationship to State Planning

The LPPRP's goals, objectives, and implementation policies are developed in the context of and support the 12 visions for planning in Maryland adopted by the Maryland General Assembly in 2009.<sup>7</sup> These were established as part of Maryland's Smart, Green and Growing initiative and provide a context for growth and development, land preservation, resource conservation, and parks and recreation planning (see box).

### State Planning Visions

1. **Quality of life and sustainability:** a high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment;
2. **Public participation:** residents are active partners in the planning and implementation of community initiatives and are sensitive to their responsibilities in achieving community goals;
3. **Growth areas:** growth is concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers;
4. **Community design:** compact, mixed-use, walkable design consistent with existing community character and located near available or planned transit options is encouraged to ensure efficient use of land and transportation resources and preservation and enhancement of natural systems, open spaces, recreational areas, and historical, cultural, and archaeological resources;
5. **Infrastructure:** growth areas have the water resources and infrastructure to accommodate population and business expansion in an orderly, efficient, and environmentally sustainable manner;
6. **Transportation:** a well-maintained, multimodal transportation system facilitates the safe, convenient, affordable, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services within and between population and business centers;
7. **Housing:** a range of housing densities, types, and sizes provides residential options for residents of all ages and incomes;
8. **Economic development:** economic development and natural resource-based businesses that promote employment opportunities for all income levels within the capacity of the State's natural resources, public services, and public facilities are encouraged;
9. **Environmental protection:** land and water resources, including the Chesapeake and coastal bays, are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems, and living resources;
10. **Resource conservation:** waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved;
11. **Stewardship:** government, business entities, and residents are responsible for the creation of sustainable communities by collaborating to balance efficient growth with resource protection; and
12. **Implementation:** strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, State, and interstate levels to achieve these visions.

<sup>7</sup> Twelve State Planning Visions, adopted in 2009. <https://abetter.maryland.gov/about/Pages/visions.aspx>

The LPPRP also responds to other state plans, programs, and initiatives such as the state LPPRP and the PlanMaryland initiative. These are discussed in Chapters III, IV, and V.

## Implications for Land Preservation and Recreation

The County's location, physical characteristics, demographics, and comprehensive plan framework have significant implications for land preservation and recreation policies.

- Anne Arundel County is projected to experience sustained population growth, with about 63,500 new residents between 2019 and 2040. Continued growth will result in increasing demand for recreation facilities and an increasing need to conserve contiguous areas of natural and agricultural resources.
- The largest shares of growth are projected to take place in County Council Districts 1, 3, and 5, which can be expected to create increased demand for recreation facilities and services.
- Projected changes in the age distribution of the County's population over the next 20 years will result in stable demand for recreation services from the 0-19 age group, stable demand from the 20 to 64 age group, and strong and increasing demand from the 65 and over group.
- The themes that make up the vision of Plan2040 are resilient, environmentally sound, and sustainable communities; new and improved infrastructure; strategic economic growth and redevelopment; community character; and inclusive, equitable, and responsive government. Parks and recreation, agricultural land preservation and natural resources conservation are essential means to achieve this vision.
- The County's designated conservation areas are largely contiguous in the southern and western parts of the County and provide a good basis for agricultural and natural resource land conservation.
- The Open Space zoning district covers much environmentally sensitive land and is an important element of the County's Greenways Master Plan. Approximately 37,000 acres are zoned open space; almost 14 percent of the County.
- The main concentration of agricultural lands is the Council District 7. These lands are interspersed with forest lands, requiring a coordinated agricultural and forestland approach to land preservation.





Church Creek  
Source: Chesapeake Bay Program on Flickr



# Chapter III: Recreation, Parks, and Open Space

## Introduction

This chapter describes Anne Arundel County's goals and objectives for parks and recreation and evaluates them in the context of State goals, and the future needs and priorities for park and open space acquisition, development, and rehabilitation. The County's goals and priorities are established based on:

- State goals and policies;
- Anne Arundel County's Plan2040, the General Development Plan (GDP);
- The mission, objectives, strategic plan, and policies of the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks;
- A supply, demand, and needs analysis of recreational facilities and activities based on a demographics, national standards, local survey, state surveys of public recreational interests, formal public input, proximity analysis, and an equity analysis.

Based on these inputs, this Chapter outlines a program for recreational land acquisition, facility development, and rehabilitation.

Parks and recreation facilities benefit the County in many ways:

- Promoting health and wellness;
- Providing opportunities for recreation, physical activity, education, and relaxation;

- Connecting people with nature;
- Protecting open space, environmental resources, and historic sites; and
- Engaging communities in protection of the environment.

A high-quality park system improves the County's quality of life and the health of its residents and helps to preserve environmental resources. By making the county a desirable place to live and work, it contributes significantly to the County's economic health.

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has developed three "pillars" that reflect these benefits.<sup>1</sup> The three pillars are:

*Health & Wellness:* Advancing community health and well-being through parks and recreation.

Parks and recreation facilities promote health and wellness in the County's population in many ways: athletic leagues and fitness classes for all ages, trails for walking and biking, places and facilities for casual games and relaxation, classes to develop skills, and many other opportunities.

*Conservation:* Creating a nation of resilient and climate-ready communities through parks and recreation.

Anne Arundel County is committed to developing its parks and recreation system in a manner that provides opportunity

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<sup>1</sup> Our Three Pillars, Impacting Communities: National Recreation and Park Association. National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). <https://www.nrpa.org/our-work/Three-Pillars/>.

for people of all ages to enjoy natural resources, and that supports the protection of natural resources. County parks provide access to natural areas, waterways, and coastlines.

The Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature is a public and private partnership that seeks to provide opportunities for children to play and learn outdoors and promote environmental literacy, in particular within underserved communities. In addition to private organizations, the partnership includes the Maryland Departments of Agriculture, Education, and Natural Resources.

The Partnership was instrumental in helping the State to update its environmental literacy education program (COMAR 13A.04.017) and to pass the first Environmental Literacy Graduation Requirement (COMAR 13A.03.02.03) in the Nation. Since then, the Partnership has supported school systems as they develop and implement their local environmental literacy programs.

In June of 2017, a Governor's Executive Order established Project Green Classrooms, renewing Maryland's commitment to environmental education to ensure that every child in Maryland has the opportunity to experience, understand, and learn to conserve the natural environment. The executive order created a coalition of state agencies and other government and non-government partners working to mobilize resources and promote outdoor activities and environmental education through schools, in communities, and on public lands to benefit Maryland's young people.

The goals and actions included in this LPPRP support increased access for students and families to natural areas. Many county parks staffs across the state are working with educators to develop ways to support the environmental literacy graduation requirement by increasing access to public lands.

*Social Equity:* Ensuring all people have fair and just access to the benefits of high-quality, local parks and recreation.

The County seeks to provide a network of recreation facilities and parks distributed through the County so that all residents have convenient access. This plan includes an evaluation of the network and identifies areas where access can be improved.

## County and State Goals

This section discusses the interrelationships between the County's and State's goals for recreation and parks.

### County Goals

#### *Plan2040*

Plan2040, the updated General Development Plan (GDP), provides the policy framework for park and recreation planning. The policies are contained in the Planning for Healthy Communities Chapter of the Plan, which addresses public services including schools, libraries, aging and disabilities, access to healthy food, recreation and parks, waste management, and public safety. Plan2040 has a single overarching goal and two related policies for recreation and facilities:

**Goal:** Provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents.

**Policies:**

- Recreation and parks should be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities.
- Improve and expand recreational opportunities for all communities to have facilities and programs nearby.

#### *Green Infrastructure Plan*

The Green Infrastructure Plan will update the Greenways Master Plan, originally adopted in 2002, which established the County's Greenways Network and a series of related goals and action items. "Green Infrastructure" is a more inclusive term that includes large natural areas, pocket parks, rain gardens, and other green spaces, and is used to steer this plan since "greenways" are commonly interpreted as linear protected areas, typically along a river.

The updated Green Infrastructure Plan improves upon but does not depart from the 2002 Greenways Master Plan. The update makes use of better data, technology, and analysis to interconnect environmental ecosystems with active and passive recreational sites, corridors, scenic areas, and historic and cultural resources in order to meet challenges related to land use conflicts, and human health and well-being. The lands identified in the Green Infrastructure Network help protect water quality and air quality, provide habitat for plants and wildlife, create opportunities for recreation, and support mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.

The Network includes publicly owned parks, trails, and historical sites. The majority of the Network is privately owned land. This includes land conserved through agricultural and conservation easements, as well as through the development review process as open space and floodplains and forest conservation easements. This also includes privately owned, undeveloped land that has the potential to be conserved.

While the Green Infrastructure Plan helps further both the County and State's recreation goals. Chapter V of this LPPRP discusses the Green Infrastructure Plan in greater detail.

### *Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan*

The Anne Arundel County Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan (PBMP) is being updated in 2022. The purpose of the plan was to identify improvements which increase the potential for safe walking and bicycling. The 2013 PBMP focused on pedestrian and bicycle improvements which create transportation alternatives within urbanized areas. While primarily focused on on-road bicycle and pedestrian transportation, the plan also addressed off-road trails and connections to parks.

### *Department of Recreation and Parks*

The vision of the Department of Recreation and Parks (the Department) is to enrich the lives of all residents of Anne Arundel County and create opportunities to enjoy life, explore nature and restore health and well-being.

The Department of Recreation and Parks objectives are established in its Guidelines and Reference Manual:

- Improve quality of life by conserving and enhancing the natural and developed environment for current and future generations.
- Enable Anne Arundel County residents to attain the maximum physical benefits and social enjoyment through participation in recreational sports.
- Promote the highest ideals and standards of sportsmanship.
- Offer youth sports that ensure maximum opportunities for participation by all team members and provide a positive environment for personal development.
- Provide opportunities for lifelong enjoyment of a physical activity and a recreational outlet for the participants.

## *The City of Annapolis*

### The City of Annapolis Mission and Goals

The City of Annapolis Department of Recreation and Park's mission is to:

*Enrich the quality of life for Annapolis area residents and advocate for healthy, active living by offering quality recreational programs and community facilities within an array of parks and natural open spaces.*

The goals for parks and recreation for the City of Annapolis are embodied in the 2009 Annapolis Comprehensive Plan. The Plan has three policies in Chapter 6, that guide the city's parks program:

- Enhance existing parks and facilities, with the objective of supporting structured and informal recreation, protecting the natural environment, and encouraging human health and fitness.
- Complete the network of pedestrian and bicycle pathways.
- Expansion of the parks system should be undertaken selectively and strategically, with the objective of taking advantage of rare opportunities, providing parks and recreation services to underserved areas, allowing public access to the waterfront, and furthering environmental goals.

These policies were confirmed in the City's 2009-2014 Five Year Comprehensive Plan Update, adopted in September 2014.

Within the City's draft Comprehensive Plan update, Annapolis Ahead 2040, which is anticipated to be adopted in 2022, the expanded goals for recreation and parks include the following:

- Merge Annapolis' recreation and parks system with its evolving network of conservation areas and trails to create a comprehensive greenway system
- Integrate equity metrics into facility expansion plans to ensure equitable access for all
- Prioritize equitable waterfront access by investing in new and improved public open spaces, and the connections to them
- Expand recreational program offerings to reach more residents, particularly under-represented populations
- Leverage public/private opportunities for expanded recreational use of Waterworks Park



## State of Maryland 2019 Goals for Recreation, Parks, and Open Space

1. **Coordination and Collaboration:** Strengthen coordination and collaboration between federal, state, and local government agencies and other key stakeholders in planning for the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities and land conservation initiatives
2. **Promote the Benefits of Outdoor Recreation and Conservation of Natural Lands:** Promote the economic, cultural, health, and environmental benefits of outdoor recreation and conservation of natural lands. Seek to increase the public's understanding of these benefits to enhance interest and participation in recreating outdoors in Maryland.
3. **Increase Access to Open Spaces and Waterfronts:** Increase and improve opportunities for all segments of the population to access land and water-based outdoor recreation opportunities.
4. **Improve What's Already Available:** Improve the overall quality of outdoor recreation infrastructure at public parks and outdoor areas across the state.
5. **Develop an Informed Stewardship Culture:** Promote environmental education and use of parks and outdoor areas as teaching tools to foster a positive stewardship ethos among children, youth, and their families.

The City is also interested in developing environmental education programs and activities at public schools within the City, an initiative that would require coordination between the City and the Anne Arundel County Board of Education. Specific activities identified by the City include rain gardens, tree planting, and landscaped natural areas. Use of school grounds for environmental initiatives could support the Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature, providing opportunity for students to participate in creating and caring for plantings that are beneficial to the natural environment

### State Goals

The State's goals for recreation, parks, and open space, shown on the following page, are compatible with the County's goals.<sup>2</sup> The County's goals complement and expand upon the State's goals. For example, Plan2040's overarching goal seeks to provide a diverse range of accessible recreational facilities and programs to serve the needs of county residents.

In 2021, Maryland created the State Park Investment Commission, to make recommendations on the need for new parks in "recreational deserts" and whether existing parks are accessible to certain under-served populations.

As the COVID-19 pandemic forced people inside to self-quarantine and abandon travel plans, outdoor recreational spaces like parks became one of the few respites left. Unprecedented crowds visited Maryland parks during the pandemic, reaching a peak of more than 21 million visitors across 75 state parks.

The efforts of the new Commission are expected to help Maryland move to parks that are more equitable, help residents be healthier, and reduce the extremes of climate change.

### Organization, Programs, and Procedures

This section describes the organizational framework in which Anne Arundel County plans, acquires, develops, and operates parks and recreation facilities and open space.

#### *Organizational Structure and Planning Procedures*

A number of entities and organizations provide park and recreation facilities and programs in Anne Arundel County.

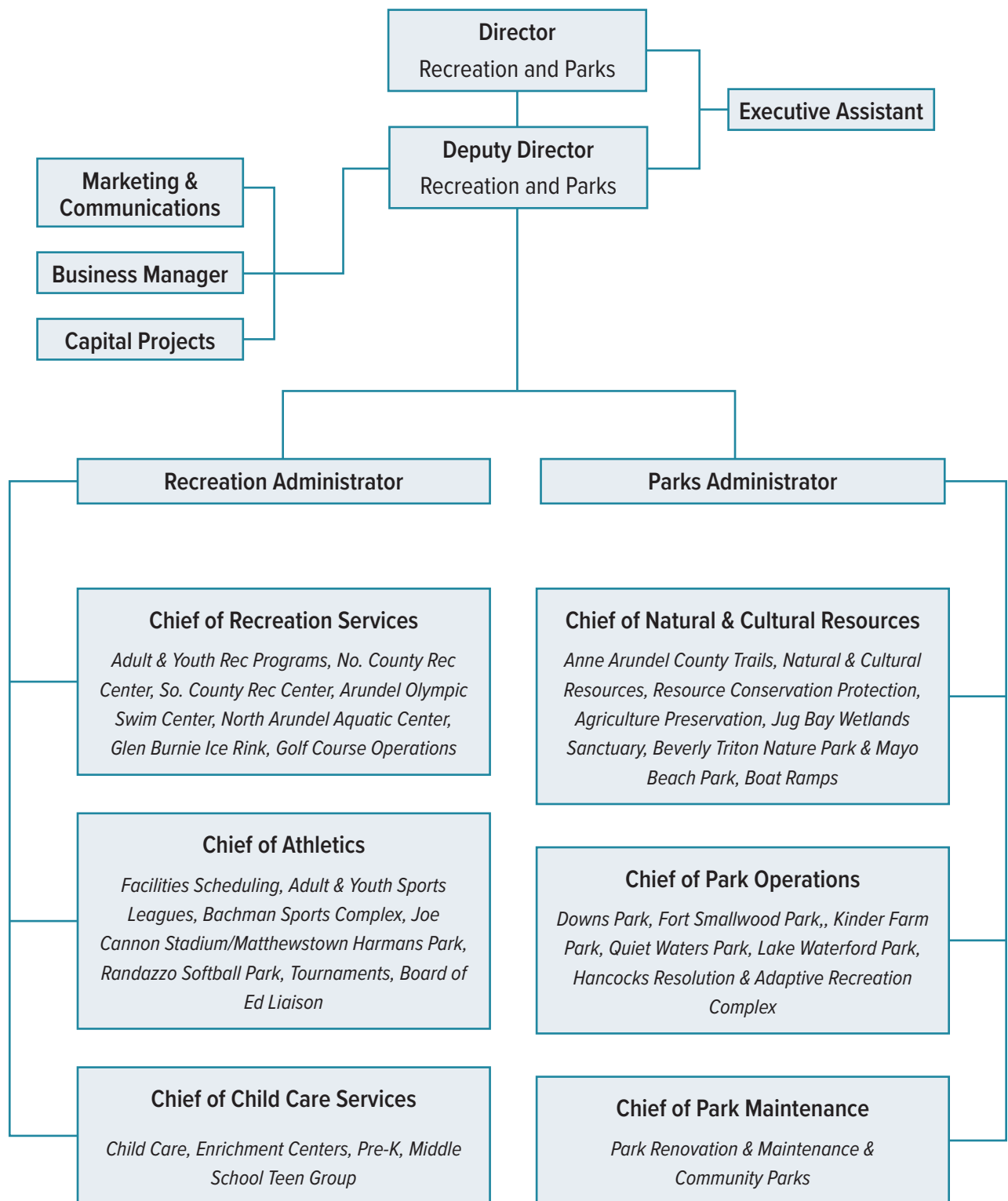
#### Department of Recreation and Parks

The Department's organization structure is shown in Chart III-I. The Director's Office, which consists of a Director and Deputy Director, provides leadership and management for the entire Department, determine Departmental staffing requirements, establish policy, develop legislation, and oversee special projects and initiatives. Administrative support, in the Office of The Director, is provided by an administrative specialist who maintains calendars, schedules meetings, crafts correspondence and provides customer service. The Director's Office supervises two major operational bureaus: the Bureau of Parks and the Bureau of Recreation.

The Bureau of Parks is responsible for the management, operation, and maintenance of the County's 21,000-acre park

<sup>2</sup> Maryland Department of Natural Resources, 2019-2023 Maryland Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (2019); page 149; <https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Pages/Stewardship/LPPRP-2019-2023.aspx>

Figure III–1: *Department of Recreation and Parks Organizational Chart*



system, and includes three Divisions: Park Operations, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Park Maintenance.

The Park Operations Division carries out the management, operation, and maintenance of regional parks (Downs Memorial Park, Fort Smallwood Park, Kinder Farm Park, and Quiet Waters Park).

The Natural and Cultural Resources Division protects and preserves the natural and cultural resources in the County (see Chapter V), while providing education and leisure opportunities for County residents and visitors. This division manages 58 cultural/historical resource sites, including 13 structures or complexes of structures, the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, the County's Water Access Program, and Countywide Trails.

The Park Maintenance Division provides daily maintenance of over 100 community and neighborhood parks, to ensure the safety of park patrons and protect the county's investment in park properties. This includes horticulture and turf maintenance services that maintain landscaped features at numerous sites.

The Bureau of Parks also houses the Agricultural Preservation Program, which oversees the purchase of agricultural and woodland conservation easements (see Chapter IV).

The Bureau of Recreation is responsible for the overall planning and operation of recreational programming and facilities, as well as youth and adult sports leagues. It consists of two divisions: the Recreation Services Division and the Athletics Division.

The Recreation Services Division carries out the planning and implementation of a wide variety of recreation programs. This division produces program guides, organizes community use of schools, and manages the wide variety of recreational programs provided by the Department, including part-time staff that actually run the programs and interact directly with the participants in the programs. Specific responsibilities of the Recreation Services Division include:

- Operation of County's two aquatic centers and two indoor recreation centers; and
- Management of the school age childcare program, which operates before and after school care programs at 52 school locations, and

The Athletics Division is responsible for managing and scheduling adult and youth sports leagues, as well as the County's major outdoor recreation facilities—the Bachman Sports Complex and Joe Cannon Stadium.

In addition to the two major bureaus, three divisions also answer to the Director's office: Marketing and Communications, Business Management, and Capital Projects.

The Marketing and Communications Division is responsible for public outreach activities and promotes the many services provided by the Department. It also organizes and hosts numerous public events throughout the year such as awards ceremonies, groundbreaking and ribbon-cutting events, athletic tournaments, and charitable events such as the annual Lifeline 100-mile bicycle ride.

The Business Management Division provides all business-related support for Department operations, including budget, financial management, contracts, purchasing, payroll, background checks, and personnel administration.

The Capital Projects Division develops the Department's annual capital budget, and manages all park planning, land acquisition and park development activities. This Division also maintains a land and property inventory, and addresses impacts to parkland, such as road widening, utilities, and private encroachments. The Division reviews all developer subdivision requests to minimize impacts to greenways, parks, and trails. The Division also oversees the development of park master plans and long-range plans (including this LPPRP). All capital improvement and land acquisition grants are the responsibility of this Division.

### Boards and Commissions

Several advisory bodies, established through provisions of the Anne Arundel County Code or executive orders, provide guidance and recommendations for parks and recreational facilities and programs in Anne Arundel County. These include:

- The Recreation & Parks Advisory Board, established through Section 550 of the County Code. This seven-member Board makes advisory recommendations to the Director of Recreation and Parks in relation to programs, services, and facilities. The Board meets bi-monthly.
- Bicycle Advisory Commission was formed in 2015. Its mission involves working toward a safe, effective, and modern network for bicycle facilities. This group has been meeting monthly identifying resources, hazards, opportunities for success, as well as identifying failures and near failures. The Department of Recreation and Parks is among many County and State agencies that participate in this commission.



## Guidelines and Reference Manual

The Department maintains a Guidelines and Reference Manual which establishes departmental policies for programs, facilities, and participants. The manual guides:

- Board of Education and Department of Recreation and Parks' facility users;
- Organizations seeking accreditation;
- Participants in youth and adult organized sports programs;
- Organizations sponsoring youth/adult recreational and athletic programs; and
- Individuals seeking coach's certification.

Policies in the manual cover:

- *Organizational Accreditation:* An accreditation process for all organizations and groups to promote and ensure the quality and diversity of athletic and recreational programming.
- *Facility Scheduling:* The Department has a joint use agreement with the Board of Education under which County recreational use of Board of Education indoor and outdoor facilities is scheduled by the Department of Recreation and Parks.
- *Facility User Rules & Guidelines:* Rules and guidelines pertaining to restrictions on tobacco, drug, and alcohol use; facilities fees; and rules for the use of indoor and outdoor facilities.
- *Scheduling Areas:* The County is divided into 13 scheduling areas, one for each high school feeder system. Each area contains a high school, as well as middle and elementary schools, and includes fields and facilities owned by the Board of Education, Department of Recreation and Parks, and City of Annapolis.
- *Background Check Program:* Ensures that every individual who has the opportunity to interact with children undergoes a criminal background check.
- *Organized Sports Rules:* Each adult and youth sport have specific administrative requirements that are fully discussed at organizational meetings held in advance of the respective season.
- *Youth Coaches Certification Clinic:* The Department provides a clinic for those interested in coaching youth athletics. The clinic covers topics such as coaching philosophy, sports psychology, legal matters, first aid, and health.

- *Coaches Associations:* Coaches Associations function as advisory boards and work with departmental staff in overseeing particular sports.
- *Disciplinary Actions:* The Department has the authority to impose disciplinary sanctions for unsportsmanlike behavior and/or non-compliance with departmental policies, guidelines, or standards.
- *Appeals Board:* The Department has an Appeals Board with the function and power to hear and decide appeals on departmental decisions involving disciplinary and organizational accreditation matters.
- *Departmental Awards:* The Department has an Awards Program that recognizes coaches, players, or volunteers who demonstrate a level of accomplishment worthy of recognition— whether athletic, scholastic or community based.
- *Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accommodations.* The Department acknowledges that all persons have the right to register for and participate in any Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks sponsored sports leagues if they meet essential eligibility requirements such as age and registration deadlines.

## Other Recreational Service Providers

The following agencies and municipalities provide parks and recreational services for Anne Arundel County residents:

- **Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities** provides some recreation programming for the elderly in Anne Arundel County.
- **The City of Annapolis Department of Recreation and Parks** is responsible for City-owned parks and recreation facilities. The City owns or maintains approximately 40 parks and open space sites, as well as the Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center. The Department has a full-time staff and offers a broad range of sports and other recreational programs for all age groups, including before and after school care.
- The Town of Highland Beach has limited recreational facilities comprising a playground and beach that are maintained by the municipality of Highland Beach. The Town also owns and maintains the historic summer home of Frederick Douglass.

## *Programs*

### Department of Recreation and Parks

The Department of Recreation and Parks provides recreation opportunities and adaptive programs for youth and adults of all abilities. Throughout the year the County offers diverse youth programs, teen programs, adult programs, as well as therapeutic and adaptive recreation programs for children and adults with disabilities. The County offers classes for social, cultural, and technological enrichment, including arts and crafts, computer courses, language arts, dance, swimming, gymnastics, aerobics, karate, and fitness instruction. The Department publishes a program guide four times a year.

#### **CAPRA Certification**

Anne Arundel County officially received certification through the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), an arm of the National Recreation and Parks Association that “accredits park and recreation agencies for excellence in operation and service” (CAPRA website) in October 2020.

CAPRA accreditation is the only national accreditation for park and recreation agencies and is a measure of an agency’s overall quality of operation, management, and service to the community. This mark of distinction indicates that an agency has met rigorous standards related to the management and administration of lands, facilities, resources, programs, safety, and services.

Certification involved a five-year process that included three phases: development of the agency self-assessment report, onsite visitation by the Commission, and the Commission’s review and decision. As part of the accreditation process, Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks had to demonstrate compliance with 151 recognized standards and document all policies and procedures.

Now that the agency is accredited, it must uphold the standards by submitting an annual report. The accreditation is reviewed again in five years.

#### **Special Needs Programs**

Special camps are provided for children and teens for a wide range of activities, such as fine arts, fitness, challenger sports, wilderness challenge, cheerleading and theater, as well as Babysitting Certification and Teen Day Camps.

The County strives to promote accessibility for all residents. Adaptive facilities and programs include the following:

- Central Special School and Ruth Parker Eason Special schools have recreation programs, adaptive sports, and swimming.
- Freedom Field at Lake Waterford Park provides adaptive sports for all ages and abilities, and can be reserved by community programs, such as Special Olympics.
- Mayo Beach Park and Lake Waterford Park Adaptive Day Camps provide youth ages 4 to 21 the opportunity to attend a comprehensive summer camp with youth of all abilities including their siblings and friends. The County offers inclusion opportunities as requested by parents for other summer camp programs.

The County also works with state, local, and private providers to continue to offer adaptive and inclusive recreation opportunities for residents of all abilities.

#### **Sports Leagues**

Annually, more than 20,000 residents participate in various County Youth, Adult, and Community Sports Leagues, and Recreation Programs and Summer Camps. The COVID-19 pandemic did have an impact on the participation rates, but the numbers from before 2020 reflect ongoing interest. The Department’s Facility Scheduling Office schedules the use of approximately 115 schools and 60 parks by approximately 500 accredited community organizations, translating to over 8,000 requests for the use of County facilities. The Therapeutic Division currently serves nearly 400 participants in therapeutic recreation programs, and the Adaptive Recreation Division currently serves more than 800 participants in adaptive recreation programs.

### Anne Arundel County Department of Aging and Disabilities

The Department of Aging and Disabilities administers over 20 individual programs and operates seven senior centers in Annapolis, Arnold, Brooklyn Park, Glen Burnie (Pascal), Odenton (O’Malley), Pasadena, and South County (in Edgewater). Recreational program offerings include yoga, aerobics, Pilates, computer awareness, and English as a second language. Participation is free and open to any resident age 55 or older.

### The City of Annapolis

The City of Annapolis Department of Recreation and Parks publishes a program guide three times per year. This Department provides most of the programs in the City, while the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks provides programs for Anne Arundel County.

## Recreation Organizations

Not-for-profit organizations play an important role in recreation in Anne Arundel County. There are many such organizations including, but not limited to, Arundel Soccer, Greater Severna Park Athletic Association, Crofton Athletic Council, Gambrills Odenton Recreation, Brooklyn Park Youth Association, and Southern Athletic Association.

These organizations not only run programs for thousands of children and adults each year, and also partner with the Department to offer services not otherwise provided by the Department, including:

- Sponsoring youth athletic clinics and community leagues.
- Helping maintain fields and facilities under maintenance agreements with the Department.
- Raising funds through grants and other fundraising activities for improvements to parks.
- Sharing resources to expand recreational athletic opportunities.
- Engaging hundreds of parents and others in volunteering as coaches and in other capacities.
- Submitting proposals and recommendations regarding departmental policies and guidelines.

*Table III-1: Department of Recreation and Parks  
FY 2022 Operating Budget Summary*

Function	Amount	Percent
Director's Office	\$6,001,500	20%
Recreation Division	\$8,865,100	29%
Parks Division	\$10,333,300	34%
Golf Courses	\$4,980,000	17%
Total	\$30,179,900	100%

*Table III-2: Department of Recreation and Parks  
FY 2022 Capital Budget Summary*

Source	Amount	Percent
Bonds	\$24,340,900	52%
General Fund PayGo	\$6,539,000	14%
Program Open Space Grants	\$6,342,400	14%
Other State and Federal Grants	\$8,780,000	19%
Private/other contributions	\$679,750	1%
Total	\$46,682,050	100%

## Funding

The County funds its parks and recreational program from a variety of sources.

### Operating Funds

The Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks FY 2022 operating budget is approximately \$30.2 million (excluding School Age Child Care, a special, self-supporting fund). Table III-1 shows the generalized breakdown of the expenditures. Revenue sources for FY 2022 include a projected \$9.3 million in user fees (including approximately \$3.2 million in golf course revenue).

### Capital Funds

Anne Arundel County's FY 2022 capital budget totals approximately \$46.7 million, which represents a more than 230% increase since FY2017. Approximately 67 percent of the Capital Budget is from County funds (Table III-2). Historically, most park acquisition, facility development, and rehabilitation funding comes from the County's Capital Budget which incorporates funds from various State grants including Maryland DNR's Program Open Space (POS).

*Table III-3: Anne Arundel County Program Open Space<sup>1</sup>  
Apportionments 2012 – 2022*

Year	\$ Thousands
2012	3,218
2013	6,411
2014	2,241
2015	2,833
2016	3,740
2017	2,549
2018	4,373
2019	6,453
2020	5,791
2021	5,343
2022	6,447
Total	49,399
Average (2012-22)	4,491

Source: Department of Recreation and Parks.

<sup>1</sup> POS is a state program (§ 5-905 of the Natural Resources Article, Annotated Code of Maryland) that provides funds to the state and local jurisdictions for land acquisition and development for recreation and open space. Funds are allocated to counties proportionally, based on real estate transfer tax collection.



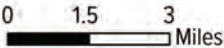


**Legend**

- District 1
- District 2
- District 3
- District 4
- District 5
- District 6
- District 7
- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail
- TBD
- County Park
- State Park
- Federal Park
- Other Local Preserved Land
- Other Preserved Open Space
- School or College
- Golf Course

**Parks and  
Recreation Sites**

Data Source: Department of Recreation and Parks  
Date Revised: March 2022



Program Open Space is a state program (§ 5-905 Annotated Code of Maryland) that provides funds to local jurisdictions for land acquisition and development for recreation and open space. Funds are allocated to counties proportionally, based on real estate transfer tax collection. For FY2022, the County benefited from a significant increase in Federal funding, primarily attributable to monies from the CARES Act and other pandemic relief.

Excluding prior appropriations, the County's Capital Budget and Five-Year CIP for recreation and parks totals nearly \$179 million. Since 2017, the County's annual POS appropriation has averaged approximately \$5.1 million per year (Table III-3). Typically, the City of Annapolis receives seven percent (7%) of Anne Arundel County's annual POS funding.

## Needs Analysis, Proximity and Equity Analysis, and Progress Since the 2017 LPPRP

County priorities for land acquisition, facility development, and rehabilitation are based on consideration of identified needs in the context of State and County goals. Before 2017, previous updates of the LPPRP contained needs analyses based on statewide surveys and methodology contained in the State's October 2010 LPPRP guidelines to evaluate the amount of land and facilities needed to satisfy the demand for recreational facilities and activities. The methodology for this 2022 LPPRP, based on the 2017 LPPRP, incorporates other inputs including additional surveys, past plans, and public comments received as part of the LPPRP plan development process.

This section examines the supply, demand, and park and recreation facility needs in the County.

### Supply & Inventory

The Department of Recreation and Parks maintains a detailed inventory of recreation and open space land and facilities. This inventory is part of a management tool that is being developed cooperatively with the County's Office of Information Technology in a multi-phase, web-based project, which will provide both internal and external functionality.

The Department of Recreation and Parks also launched a new online mapping tool in 2020 called Park Finder that maps the locations of park elements such as ball fields, trails, courts, playgrounds, and water fountains. This interactive map can be used on a computer or a mobile phone and allows users to find parks by location, sort parks by activity, or find a park by name.

Appendix A contains the County's LPPRP Inventory, as required by the State's 2022 LPPRP Guidelines. Map III-1 shows the location of the park and recreation sites. GIS data for these sites can be provided to the State. Table III-4 summarizes recreational and resource land.

As of the end of 2021, Anne Arundel County has a total of 38,430 acres of recreation and resource land under federal, state, and local ownership (Table III-4). The County, the City of Annapolis and Highland Beach own a combined 21,404 acres, or 56 percent of the total. The State and Federal governments own 17,026 acres, or 44 percent.

### County and Municipal Land

The County together with the City of Annapolis and the Board of Education provides approximately 10,130 acres of local recreation land. This acreage comprises 7,882 acres of County parks and recreation areas, 2,048 acres of recreation land at schools (school recreation parks) and 170 acres in the City of Annapolis.

The County's land and property inventory includes 59 cultural / historic sites. Within those 59 sites are 14 historic structures or complexes of structures:

- Andover Equestrian Center – Hamilton House;
- B & A Trail – Earleigh Heights Ranger Station;
- Dairy Farm Park Complex;
- Fort Smallwood Park Complex
- Gresham Historic House
- Hancocks Resolution and the Cook Farmhouse;
- Hot Sox Field at Wilson Park—Wilson Farmhouse;
- Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary—Station Masters House;
- Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary—Riggelman Complex;
- Kinder Farm Park Complex;
- Linthicum Walks;
- London Town House and Gardens—William Brown House;
- Patuxent River Greenway-Bayard—Queen Annes Bridge Road Suspension Bridge; and
- South Shore Trail—Childs Residence (Cecil Avenue Rangers Station).

Table III-4: *Acres of Recreation and Resource Land by Owner*

Owner	Recreation	Resource	Total
Anne Arundel County	7,882.3	10,802.9	18,685.3
Board of Education	2,047.6		2,047.6
City of Annapolis	169.6	470.5	640.1
Town of Highland Beach	1.0	0.2	1.2
<b>Subtotal: Local</b>	<b>10,130.4</b>	<b>11,273.6</b>	<b>21,404.1</b>
State	1,866.5	2,871.0	4,737.5
Federal		12,288.5	12,288.5
<b>Subtotal: State, Federal</b>	<b>1,866.5</b>	<b>15,159.5</b>	<b>17,026.0</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>11,967.1</b>	<b>26,433.1</b>	<b>38,400.2</b>

## State and Federal Land

State and Federal recreation and open space lands in Anne Arundel County total around 17,026 acres of which approximately 1,866 acres are recreation land, and 15,160 acres are natural resource land (Table III-4).

The major State-owned recreation areas in the County are Sandy Point State Park, Patapsco Valley State Park, and the Anne Arundel County Fair Site. Major State-owned natural resource areas include Severn Run Natural Environmental Area, House Creek Natural Resource Management Area, Patapsco Valley State Park, Franklin Point, and Globecom Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Federally owned land in the County includes the Patuxent Research Refuge, United States Air Force Globecom property, the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, and the United States Naval Academy Dairy Farm (currently leased by the County).

Anne Arundel County has entered into agreements with state agencies (such as the Maryland Aviation Administration and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources) to lease state-owned land for local recreation use. Examples include portions of Arden Park and the BWI Trail.

## Water Access

Anne Arundel County has 533 miles of shoreline along tidal waters, the sixth-most among Maryland counties, to serve a population of more than 571,000—far more than other counties with longer shorelines. Water and access to the water are fundamental characteristics of life in Anne Arundel County. This includes water access for recreation—including boating, swimming, fishing, crabbing, and appreciation of water views. Many neighborhoods maintain community (i.e., restricted to neighborhood residents and their guests) beaches, piers, and boat ramps. In addition, there are 303 commercial and community marinas with nearly 12,040 boat slips in the County.<sup>3</sup> The County does not operate or manage these community and commercial facilities.

Despite the importance of water access, the County has comparatively few public water access points to serve the general population, and specifically those who do not live in water-privileged communities. Public water access points in the County, described in detail below, include boat ramps, “cartop” boat launches, beaches, and parks and publicly accessible resource lands with water frontage.

Anne Arundel County remains committed to providing programming and amenities that result in increased public water access. Recreation and Parks has allocated over \$7.2 million to water access through various water-related capital improvement projects. The Department continues to improve existing piers and wharfs, enhance shoreline protection, seek locations for paddlers and rowers, create “paddle in” parks, and to search for locations for future boat ramps and cartop launches.

<sup>3</sup> Source: *Marinas of Anne Arundel County (2018)*. <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/research-and-gis/map-services/forms-and-publications/marinas.pdf>



Operationally, the County has launched the YourPassNow system to help manage frequently crowded public water access at Mayo Beach Park and other locations.

The County's summer camp programs include special offerings for youth such as our marine sciences-oriented River Adventure and Park Passport Camps, each designed to encourage school age children to get in the water and explore nature. In partnership with Anne Arundel County Public Schools, DRP sponsors the “drownproofing” program that instructs County fifth-grade students on water safety and survival.

The Department of Recreation and Parks maintains a guide to canoe and kayak launch sites and fishing spots throughout the County – this guide is available on the Department's website. In addition to providing car top boat access, the County is working with the State of Maryland to identify and map potential “water trails” which connect numerous destinations along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The County also has several primitive, paddle-in campsites on County land along the Patuxent River.

### *Public Boat Ramps*

Currently, there are six locations (paved ramps intended for use by trailer-mounted boats) in the County, including:

- Discovery Village;
- Fort Smallwood Park;
- Sandy Point State Park (State of Maryland);
- Solley Cove Park;
- Truxtun Park (City of Annapolis); and
- Tucker Street Boat Ramp (City of Annapolis—use restricted to City residents).

### *Public Cartop Launches*

The public boat ramps above also allow launching of smaller “cartop” vessels (i.e., canoes, kayaks, and other nonmotorized watercraft that do not need a trailer). Public cartop boat launch sites may be found at 28 locations throughout the County.

### *Public Fishing and Crabbing*

Many recreation areas throughout the County offer pier or shoreline fishing and crabbing, including Fort Smallwood Park, Patapsco Valley State Park, Downs Memorial Park, South River Farm Park, Deale Wharf, Green Haven Wharf, Quiet Waters Park, Thomas Point Park, Truxtun Park, Carr's Wharf, and Wootons Landing Park.

### *Public Beaches*

Swimming and/or wading is a designated and intended activity at Beverly Triton Nature Park, Sandy Point State Park, Fort Smallwood Park, and Mayo Beach Park. All of these locations have bathroom facilities, however, only Sandy Point State Park provides lifeguards; other sites are posted as “swim at your own risk” sites. The County Health Department monitors water quality conditions at more than 80 public and private beaches in the County where people swim and provides alerts when poor water quality makes contact with the water potentially unsafe.

### *Public Lands with Water Frontage*

Developed and undeveloped County parks and resource lands with water frontage (including frontage accessible only by hiking) total over 7,600 acres. These lands include, for example, Beachwood Park, Homeport Farm Park, Shady Cove Natural Area, Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, and Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy. State Parks such as Patapsco Valley and Sandy Point offer additional opportunities.

Water viewing is also an important recreational activity. While a number of parks do not offer direct access to the water, many offer water views and/or have walking trails. Examples include, Broad Creek Park, Elizabeth Dixon Park, Lake Waterford Park, London Town House and Gardens, Patuxent River Greenway-Oxbow Natural Area, Quiet Waters Park, Shady Side Park, and Thomas Point Park.

### *Trails*

Anne Arundel County is home to shared use trails with national, regional, and local significance. Key recreational trails in the County are summarized below. Map III–2 shows the County's existing and envisioned trails.

While the focus of this LPPRP is on the recreational function of trails, these facilities also serve important transportation functions, providing a mode of travel for individuals who do not have access to, or prefer not to use automobiles. These trails also provide the ever important first/last mile or so connection to public transit. To the degree that trails also facilitate non-motorized transportation, they also help the County achieve the air quality, environmental, and traffic congestion goals described in Plan2040 and elsewhere in County policy.

## *County Trails*

**Baltimore & Annapolis Trail (B&A Trail).** An established 13.3-mile recreational greenway that follows the route of the former B&A Railroad from Glen Burnie to Annapolis. The trail is owned and managed by the Department, is one of the premier recreational greenways in the State and connects to the BWI Trail (see below). The B&A Trail greenway encompasses 147 acres within a 66-foot-wide vegetated corridor. The trail has a 10-foot-wide, paved surface and is used by walkers, runners, bicyclists, and equestrians. The Department of Recreation and Parks has produced a series of manuals on the B&A Trail Park, including a park operation manual, maintenance manual and a park ranger manual, which includes a section in sign language.

**BWI Trail:** An existing 12.5-mile paved trail encircling much of the perimeter of Baltimore-Washington Thurgood Marshall International Airport (BWI). The trail connects scenic areas, recreational sites, communities, and transit facilities. The system is jointly managed by the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks, and Maryland's Aviation and State Highway Administrations. Spur trails connect the BWI loop with the Linthicum Light Rail Station, the BWI Amtrak station, and with the northern terminus of the B&A Trail.

**Marley Neck Trail:** This trail will provide circulation and recreation for the Marley Neck Boulevard corridor. The first section of trail is nearly one-half mile long, adjacent to Creekside Village. Additional segments would be constructed (by private developers) in conjunction with new development between Spencer Road and Fort Smallwood Road.

**MD 175 Trail:** This shared-use trail is being developed cooperatively with the State Highway Administration (SHA). Upon completion of construction and some restoration efforts, necessitated by other development activities in the area, management and patrol of this system will mimic the other County regional trails. The trail has termini and connections through the Parkside subdivision to the north and Llewellyn Avenue in the south. A further extension is designed to reach just beyond MD 295.

**Shady Side Trails:** With the support of the Shady Side community, the Department constructed a natural-surface trail system on existing road frontage along Idlewild Road and within the Shady Cove Natural Area. Trail provides a safe pedestrian corridor between residential communities, recreational opportunities, a school, and the water.

**Broadneck Peninsula Trail:** A partially complete proposed 8.7-mile east-west trail, linking Sandy Point State Park with the B&A Trail in Arnold, generally following College Parkway

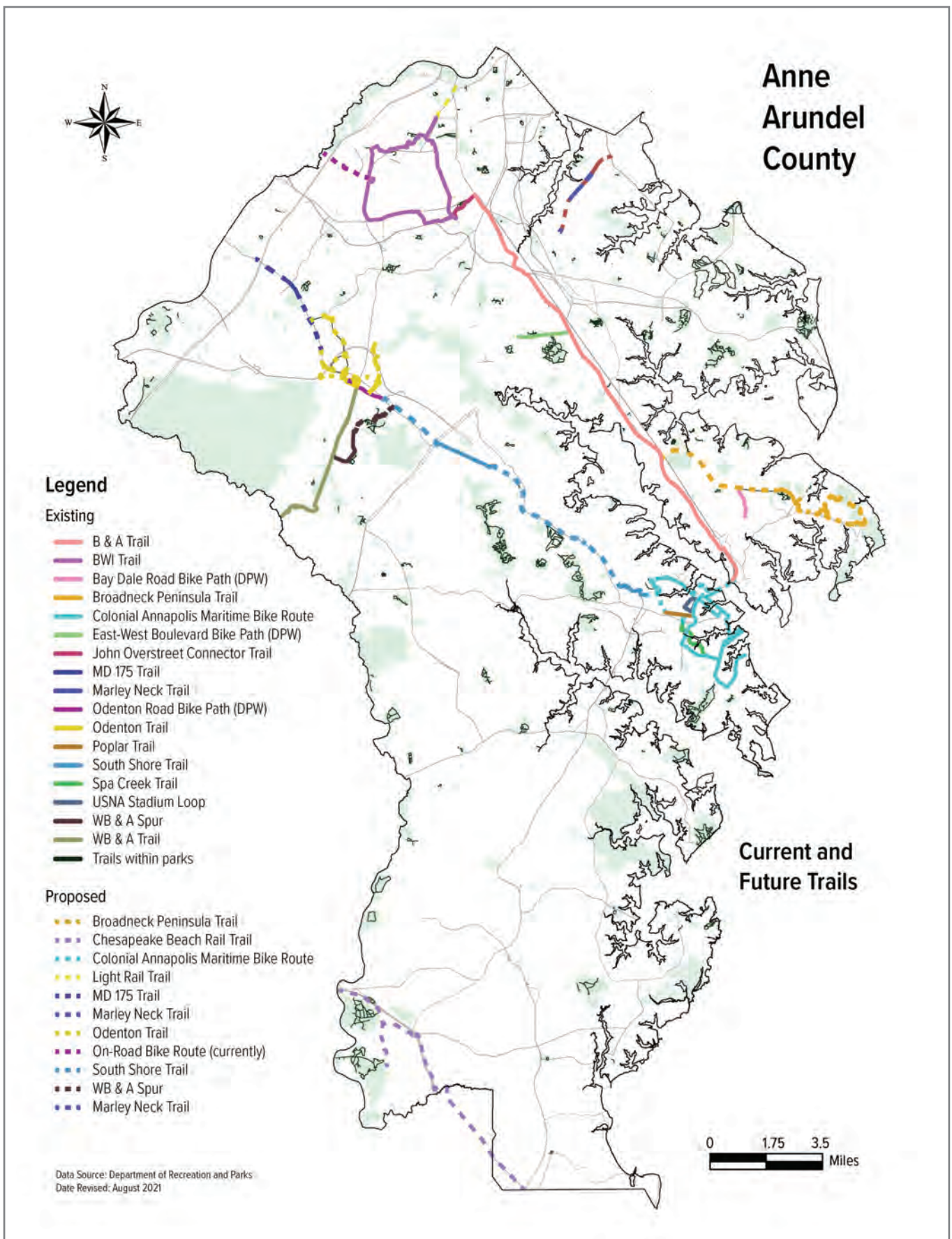
and East College Parkway. Existing 2.4-mile (Phases I and II) segment of the trail runs from East College Parkway to Bay Dale Drive, providing connections to Broadneck Park, Broadneck Library, Broadneck High School, Bay Dale Shopping Center, along with many business and residential areas. The remainder of the trail will primarily use property within the right-of-way of College Parkway and will provide linkages to Anne Arundel Community College, schools, communities, and Sandy Point State Park. Construction of Phases III (Bay Dale Drive to Peninsula Farm Road) and Ib/V (East College Parkway to Sandy Point State Park) are planned to start in 2022.

**Washington, Baltimore & Annapolis Trail (WB&A Trail):** This significantly complete multi-use rail trail will connect Anne Arundel's trail to Prince George's trail with the construction of a bridge over the Patuxent River, anticipated in 2022. This trail will use much of the former WB&A railroad corridor between Odenton and the Patuxent River, providing a trail connection to the MARC train station in Odenton. Existing spine consists of 5.5 miles of paved trail extending southward from Odenton and terminating near the Patuxent River. This crossing would connect the Anne Arundel County portion of the trail to the Prince George's County portion, and thus to the East Coast Greenway and other major trails in the Baltimore-Washington region.

**South Shore Trail:** A planned 10.3-mile multi-use rail trail that will utilize the portion of the former WB&A railroad right-of-way running between Odenton and Annapolis. Phase I in Millersville and a small segment between Anne Arundel Medical Center and Bestgate Road are open. The remainder of the trail will stretch from Bestgate Road to the WB&A Trail in Odenton, which will connect to Prince George's County's WB&A Trail at the Patuxent River. Phase II of the trail is expected to be under construction in 2022.

**Patapsco Greenway Trail:** A conceptual multi-jurisdictional pedestrian and bicycle system for accessing Patapsco Valley State Park. The greenway will provide recreational as well as transportation opportunities by linking neighborhoods, businesses, and landmarks. The concept for this trail system was developed cooperatively with DNR, the Maryland Park Service, the Baltimore Metropolitan council, the University of Maryland, Anne Arundel, Howard, Baltimore, and Carroll Counties and Baltimore City. The Anne Arundel County segment would connect the BWI Trail to the Grist Mill Trail in Howard County. Howard and Carroll Counties are progressing the early concept into design.

**South County Trail:** The County is in the process of studying potential alignments for a South County bike lane and trail





system extending from the Mayo-Edgewater Area southward to the proposed Chesapeake Beach Trail which will connect to Calvert County.

**Water Trails:** The Patuxent River Commission, in partnership with a host of other agencies and partners in Maryland, designated an 80-mile paddling trail along the Patuxent River from Calvert County to Howard County. This trail is also coterminous with the water trail portion of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, as well as the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. A number of boat launch sites are available including three in Anne Arundel County at Patuxent Wetlands Park, Wootons Landing, and Davidsonville Park.

**The City of Annapolis.** The City's trail system includes signature trails such as the Poplar Trail, Spa Creek Trail, the Naval Academy Stadium Trail, and extensive trail networks within Waterworks Park, Truxtun Park, and Ellen O. Moyer Nature Park. This system also includes a variety of bikeways and shorter segments within conservation areas and will grow in coming years through additional conservation efforts. This system is generally designed for use by bicyclists and pedestrians, and comprises designated sidewalks, on-road sections, and off-road trails. The entire system within the City is approximately 19 miles, of which nearly 14 miles are complete, and 5 miles are in various stages of planning and development.

The City adopted a Bicycle Master Plan in 2011. Its vision is to encourage more bicycling by developing and continually improving safe and accessible streets through programs like Safe Routes to School and off-road networks and amenities such as bicycle storage, signage, education, enforcement, and maps. Many of the recommendations from this plan remain highly relevant. The City's update of its Comprehensive Plan and the future update of the Parks & Pathways Master Plan will include new priorities for trail connections.

A specific area of expansion for the trail network will focus on College Creek where a significant amount of waterfront remains in both natural condition and in public ownership yet with few opportunities for public access. Through its Public Water Access Plan and updated Parks & Pathways Master Plan, the City plans to work with all College Creek property owners and stakeholders, particularly Anne Arundel County, to realize a comprehensive vision for public access and connectivity around the Creek.

## *National Trails*

Three multi-state national trails intersect in Anne Arundel County (see Map III-1), including:

- The East Coast Greenway, a planned route from Florida to Maine that crosses through Maryland and Anne Arundel County.
- The American Discovery Trail runs from Delaware to California.
- The September 11 National Memorial Trail is a planned 1,300-mile system of trails and roadways linking the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Washington DC, and the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

These trails use all or portions of the following local trails: WB&A, B&A, BWI, South Shore, Broadneck, and Colonial Annapolis Maritime Route. These multi-state trails will be mainly paved or hard surface trails and are designated primarily for recreation although locally they also serve as alternative modes of transportation.

## **Private Quasi-Public Land and Facilities**

Private quasi-public lands make a significant contribution to public recreation in Anne Arundel County. These lands include neighborhood parks, mini-parks, marinas, indoor recreation centers and gyms, neighborhood pools and clubhouses, tennis clubs, and golf courses.

Fort George G. Meade comprises approximately 5,400 acres in western Anne Arundel County and is home to approximately 16,300 military personnel and about 39,000 civilian employees and contractors. Fort Meade operates a number of recreation facilities that are open to authorized personnel and their families and guests including an equestrian center, a track, and indoor and outdoor swimming pools. While these facilities reduce demand on county recreation facilities, they are not included in the recreation inventory in Appendix A, because they are not open to the general public.

## **Breakdown by District**

Table III-6 shows the breakdown of recreation sites by County Council District, while Table III-5 shows the amount of active recreation land per 1,000 population. This information updates information that has appeared in previously adopted Anne Arundel County LPPRPs (i.e., 2017, 2013, etc.), and is complementary to, but does not replace the Proximity Analysis, which is on page 68.

Table III-5: **Number of Parks, Acreage by District, and Recreation Acres per 1,000 people**

Location	Number	Recreation Acres	Resource Acres	Total Acres	Recreation Acres/ 1,000 People (2019)	Recreation Acres/ 1,000 People (2040)
Council District 1	44	1,628.8	33.6	1,662.4	20.34	16.00
Council District 2	27	451.3	-	451.3	5.79	5.33
Council District 3	41	2,514.2	393.5	2,907.7	36.03	32.08
Council District 4	52	2,061.2	12,604.9	14,666.1	154.59	144.03
Council District 5	37	1,787.0	61.4	1,848.4	24.27	21.46
Council District 6*	82	1,100.0	765.2	1,865.2	23.35	21.99
Council District 7	78	2,454.5	6,526.9	8,981.4	112.29	108.40
Residential Resource Area		-	6,047.7	6,047.7	-	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>11,997.0</b>	<b>26,433.1</b>	<b>38,430.2</b>	<b>Averages 21</b>	<b>18.9</b>

\* Includes City of Annapolis

Table III-6: **Total Facilities per District**

Facility Type	Council District 1	Council District 2	Council District 3	Council District 4	Council District 5	Council District 6*	Council District 7	Grand Total
Baseball Fields	58	38	59	47	53	27	68	350
Multipurpose Fields	24	23	30	28	46	36	60	247
Tennis Courts	29	29	28	25	29	18	33	191
Rebound Courts	5	1	5	1	1	2	3	18
Volleyball Courts	2	0	4	0	0	3	0	9
Skate Courts	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	5
Boat Ramps	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	6
Cartop Launches	0	0	6	0	2	8	12	28
Golf Courses	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2
Picnic Areas	20	10	67	25	34	22	38	216
Pavilions	14	4	15	1	8	13	10	65
Indoor Pools	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
Outdoor Pools	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Playgrounds	35	21	23	27	25	28	34	193
Ice Rinks	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3
BMX/Mountain Bike Courses	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Basketball Courts	50	38.5	48	40	34	36	40	286.5
Pickleball Courts	6	8	5	4	9	25	10	65
Curball Courts	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Dog Areas	1	0	1	2	1	2	2	9
Total Trail Miles	13	24	22	38	48	42	41	228

\* Includes City of Annapolis

The number and types of sites are somewhat unevenly distributed around the County. This is not surprising given the county's history and geography. Specialized parks and facilities, such as aquatic centers and sports complexes serve countywide needs, and thus cannot be placed in all planning areas.

Table III–5 shows that Council Districts 7 and 3, in the South and Northeast have more per capita active recreation land than Districts 2 and 6. Most resource land in the County is in District 4 in the West, an area that includes the Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge (NWR).

The largest population growth through 2040 is projected in District 1. Absent new acquisitions, by 2040 the recreation land per 1,000 persons will decrease from 19.9 acres to 15.7 acres, with proportionate decreases among the other Districts.

### *Changes since 2017*

Appendix A lists changes in recreational facility supply since adoption of the 2017 LPPRP. Anne Arundel County has made much progress toward addressing the needs identified in the 2017 LPPRP. Notable efforts include expanding water access through the opening of new trailered-boat ramps at Discovery Village in Shady Side and at Solley Cove Park in Curtis Bay and with the addition of new cartop launches for human-powered watercraft at Homeport Farms Park, Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy, Discovery Village and Solley Cove Park. Demand for added playing fields has been addressed by new fields at Bell Branch Park and adding field lighting to existing fields in such places as Queenstown Park, Severn Danza Park and Deale Traceys Park. The County's historic and cultural resources were strengthened by constructing a Visitors Center at Hancock's Resolution. The County's trail system continued to expand with the opening of Phase II of the Broadneck Peninsula Trail.

## Demand and Needs Analysis

Anne Arundel County used five main inputs to determine the demand and need for recreational land and facilities:

- Comparison to National Standards;
- Demographic analysis;
- Recreation surveys;
- Review of past plans; and
- Public input from meetings and comments.

A consolidated database was created of all inputs for internal review and decision-making purposes by County staff. A full report of the surveys and comments can be found in Appendix E. The five inputs are described in detail below.

### Comparison to National Standards

There is no exact standard for determining the need for recreation and open space. However, the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) compiled data from 1,000 park and recreation agencies across the country between 2018 and 2020 to create their 2021 NRPA Agency Performance Review. The report provides NRPA's Park Metrics, a comprehensive data tool that uses the trends of the recreation agencies to help guide their management and planning of recreation facilities.

The 2021 report found that a typical Park and Recreation Agency with a community of over 250,000 residents, like Anne Arundel County, has an average of 10.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents and one park for every 5,765 residents.

Anne Arundel does very well in comparison. The County overall has 67 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents and one park for every 1,637 residents (in this case, a smaller number

*Table III–7: Comparison to National Standards with Projected Demographic Change*

	National Standard		2019		Anne Arundel County 2040 Projected		Change	
	Acres/ 1,000 People	Residents per Park	Acres/ 1,000 People	Residents per Park	Acres/ 1,000 People	Residents per Park	Acres/ 1,000 People	Residents per Park
Council District 1	10.6	5,765	20.34	1,858	16.00	2,361	(4.3)	+ 503
Council District 2			5.79	2,888	5.33	3,133	(0.5)	+ 246
Council District 3			36.03	1,968	32.08	2,211	(4.0)	+ 243
Council District 4			154.59	1,824	144.03	1,958	(10.6)	+ 134
Council District 5			24.27	2,058	21.46	2,328	(2.8)	+ 270
Council District 6			23.35	974	21.99	1,034	(1.4)	+ 60
Council District 7			112.29	1,025	108.40	1,062	(3.9)	+ 37
AVERAGE			53.81	1,799	49.90	2,013	(4)	+ 213



is preferable). The numbers vary slightly when looked at by District. District 2 is the only Council District that is under the national benchmark of 10.6 acres per 1,000 residents with six acres per 1,000 people. All of the Council Districts far exceed the national standard of one park for every 5,765 residents and the numbers are also well distributed. Again, Council District 2 has the fewest number of parks per resident with one park for every 2,888 residents (Table III-8).

The NRPA report also analyses population per facility. Unfortunately, few of the statistics were directly comparable to Anne Arundel since their methodology was organized in a different way than Anne Arundel County's inventory. However, for the facilities that could be compared, Anne Arundel did very well. For example, for jurisdictions with over 250,000 residents, the report listed an average of 8,271 residents per playground. Anne Arundel has an average of 2,390 residents per playground.

## Needs based on Demographics

One way to measure the need for recreation and open space areas is by analyzing the existing and projected age change of the user population and compare it to facilities. In 2010, Anne Arundel County had a population of 537,656 and the median age was 38.2.

In 2019, Anne Arundel County had an estimated 571,275 residents and the median age was 38.6.<sup>4</sup> That is a growth of about 33,600 people between 2010 and 2019, but the median age didn't change much.

The County is projected to grow to 634,778 people by 2040, a growth of 63,500 people. The largest amount of that growth is expected to happen in Council District 1 followed by District 3, District 5, and then District 4. If there are no changes to the inventory, this will have an impact on the total number of acres per resident and the number of parks per resident. Those impacts are reflected in Table III-7.

Countywide, the 65+ age group is expected to grow the most by 2040, by about 45,200 people. The 0-19 age group is also expected to grow, by about 13,700 people (Table II-4). This change means that the County may need to focus more of its facility updates and changes to support recreation for the 65+ age group like workout loops, pickleball, boat launches, canoeing and kayaking, and trails. The County will still need to maintain, upgrade, and possibly add new facilities for younger population and families.

## Park Usage

Prior attempts to estimate park use in Anne Arundel County have projected that as many as 40,000 residents visit our parks on any day. World events have driven residents to our parks in notably increased numbers. At the height of the global pandemic, we estimate that as many as 100,000 people a day used our parks. There is no accurate or practical means to measure park use is available. The Department of Recreation and Parks estimates the numbers of visitors to and users of our parks and recreational facilities in several ways. We record the number of residents who sign up for various organized sports such as baseball, soccer, cheerleading, basketball, football, softball, lacrosse, field hockey and volleyball and those who register for recreational programming such as fitness and yoga classes. We rely on observations made by DRP Rangers, field monitors and recreation specialists who are in the parks regularly.

Recreation and Parks also uses data available from paid and/or measured attendance parks, which can be extrapolated to other parks. As of the preparation of this LPPRP, only six of (6) the County's parks charge admission fees to users, which gate receipts are the measure of attendance. The County noted that metered visitor counts at four (4) larger parks - Downs Memorial Park, Fort Smallwood Park, Kinder Farm Park, and Quiet Waters Park - collectively totaled 1,489,486 visitors in FY2018 and showed a persistent year-over-year increase in park visitors for the period immediately following adoption of the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan. For FY2018 to FY2019, those parks saw a 7.6% increase in visits. Maryland DNR noted a similar increase of approximately 10% at its 75 parks for that same period. The Department of Recreation and Parks estimates that similar increases occurred across all County park types - regional, community and neighborhood. While participation in various County-sponsored sports leagues remained largely unchanged, visitations to the Recreation and Parks website and the use of the County's ParkFinder app suggest that much of the increase in park visits and facility use was by first-time or new park users.

All measures of park visitation and use changed dramatically in March 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything. Immediately upon the implementation of emergency public health procedures, the Department of Recreation and Parks waived admission fees at its larger, paid-entry parks. The number of residents visiting parks throughout the County skyrocketed as stay-at-home advice

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4 2010 Census numbers from the Decennial Census. 2019 Census numbers from the 2015-2019 American Communities Survey

Table III–8: *Park Attendance June 2020 to July 2021*

Park	Visits
Beverly Triton Nature Park	107,226
Downs Memorial Park	141,220
Fort Smallwood Park	95,319
Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary	89,772
Kinder Farm Park	566,521
Quiet Waters Park	871,882
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,871,94</b>

and other measures sent residents seeking uncrowded, open, and green spaces. Visits to Anne Arundel’s four (4) large parks - Downs Memorial, Fort Smallwood, Kinder Farm and Quiet Waters Parks - that grew at 7.6% in FY2019, grew by more than 32% after the onset of the pandemic in FY2020. Rangers noted unprecedented walkers, hikers, runners, and cyclists on County trails. Parking areas at trailheads and other parks were frequently observed to be full.

In FY2021, six large parks, including Beverly Triton Nature Park and Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, combined for an estimated 1.8 million visitors! The County’s treasured Quiet Waters Park alone drew more than 860,000 visitors - some 300,000 more people than the entire population of Anne Arundel County. Recreation and Parks estimates the 51% increase in the number of park visitors, as measured by paid admissions across multiple parks, is the enduring result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The use of all Anne Arundel County parks, trails and recreational facilities is record levels. The increased and vibrant public interest in the development of this Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan is further evidence of the robust use of the County’s park and recreation system.

### *Special Events*

In addition to the day-to-day visitors to our parks, the Department of Recreation and Parks host numerous special events that bring more people to our parks. During the summer months Quiet Waters and Downs Parks host free, weekly concerts which attract thousands of people. We have celebrated Labor Day at Quiet Waters Park with the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra for 30 years, drawing some 4,000 people to the park for the performance.

In 2018 and 2019 the Department hosted Twist and Stout at Quiet Waters Park. More than 1,200 attended the day-long wine, beer, art, music, and food festival. Quiet Waters Park hosts other events which attract many residents, examples include the SPCA Run for the Animals, which brings some 3,000 participants and spectators, and the annual Art in the Park event which draws 5,000 or more visitors to the Park.

Table III–9: *Trail Use in FY2021*

Location	TOTAL
B&A Trail - Earleigh Heights Parking Lot	162,582
B&A Trail - Earleigh Heights Bike/Ped	789,723
WB&A Trail - Parking Lot	69,955
Jonas Green Park - Parking Lot	335,928
South Shore Trail	102,531
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,460,718</b>

Kinder Farm Park hosts an annual Fall Harvest Festival on the first Saturday in October. This event has been so successful, drawing more than 12,000 attendees in 2018. The event has made some modifications to make sure it is not too crowded and safe for all. Attendance post pandemic in 2021 was limited to 5,000 for safety protocols and was a complete sell out.

Another annual signature event is the Lifeline 100 cycling event. Held in Kinder Farm Park annually, the event has been a success since it started in 2014. In the ensuing years it has become a premiere ride in the cycling community. In 2021 registration was capped at 1,000 participants for safety reasons and sold-out weeks in advance. In addition to the cyclists, friends, families, and volunteers come to support the event. Recreation and Parks also offers a free kid’s bike rodeo to bring approximately 1,500 visitors to the park for this one-day annual event.

Downs Park has an annual tradition to host a Boy Scout Camp Out annually. We host 1,200 scouts in the park all day and overnight.

Our regional parks are a destination for weddings. The waterfront locations of Downs, Mayo Beach, and Quiet Waters Parks are reserved for weddings and private events every year from spring through the fall. In addition, our parks provide such beautiful backdrops that they attract hundreds of people to take photographs for their special events - engagements, weddings, school proms, homecomings, and graduation celebrations and more.

### *Trail Use*

As with most Anne Arundel’s parks, the County’s trail network generally has no ability to precisely measure visits and use. County Ranger and maintenance staff report increased interactions with trail users and shared observations of overflow parking. New trails and trail sections, such as the Broadneck Peninsula Trail in 2020, were reported as drawing crowds immediately upon opening. As of this Plan’s development, the County has installed electronic counters

at locations on four (4) trails - the B&A Trail (two locations), WB&A Trail, South Shore Trail, and at the Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park Trail. The user counts for FY2021 are included below (Table III–9). Including Park Ranger informal counts of bikes and pedestrians with the measured locations, Recreation and Parks estimates that almost 1.5 million people used Anne Arundel County’s trails during the most recent (2021) Fiscal Year.

### *Special Facilities Use*

Recreation and Parks operates a number of fee-for-use facilities including indoor swim centers, golf courses, and seasonal outdoor ice rinks. Like all of our parks, these facilities see regular and robust use. Nearly 300,000 residents visit the County’s two (2) indoor swim centers - the Arundel Olympic Swim Center and the North Arundel Aquatics Center - annually. These visits include swim lessons, competitive swimming, water exercise, leisure, and play use, and host the County school system’s “drownproofing” program that instructs County fifth-grade students on water safety and survival. The County’s two (2) outdoor ice rinks, at Glen Burnie Town Center and in Quiet Waters Park, which operate during favorable weather during the winter months, attract more than 30,000 visitors annually. Compass Pointe and the Preserve at Eisenhower Golf Courses host more than 100,000 golfers annually.

### *Sports Participation*

Anne Arundel County’s parks host more than 400 youth and adult sports organizations. Sports to include soccer, football, lacrosse, baseball, tennis, pickleball and more are used year-round. The parks are visited by the players and their families. On weekends Recreation and Parks staff see hundreds of people on the fields and sidelines. Some larger community parks as well as the Anne Arundel County Public School turf fields (scheduled by Recreation and Parks) are used for sport team tournaments. The largest annual tournament is Summer Exposure Lacrosse Tournament which attracts youth lacrosse players from across the United States. The popularity of the tournament has increased, and the number of fields required to stage the tournament games has grown from 13 to more than 20 fields. The Department has estimated as many as 10,000 players, parents, coaches, and spectators visit a single park location (with three turf fields) on just a single day of the tournament.

### *Unmet Needs*

Information collected and analyzed during the preparation of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation generally supports the Department’s assessment of the need for added

*Table III–10: Youth Participation in County-sponsored Leagues*

YOUTH SPORT	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	TREND
Baseball	31	24	17	-	-	Down
Boys Basketball	328	310	325	322	-	Even
Girls Basketball	131	140	143	142	-	Even
Spring Basketball	94	106	97	-	32	Even
Fall Field Hockey	120	111	103	94	81	Even
Football	143	144	123	119	92	Even
Boys Lacrosse	114	116	91	-	73	Even
Girls Lacrosse	169	173	155	-	124	Even
Fall Soccer	376	489	390	405	327	Even
Spring Soccer	311	324	354	-	311	Even
Volleyball	49	54	54	73	-	Even
Wrestling	25	23	22	22	-	Even
<b>TOTAL YOUTH TEAMS</b>	<b>1,891</b>	<b>2,014</b>	<b>1,874</b>	<b>1,177</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>Down</b>

*Table III–11: Individual Sports Participation*

INDIVIDUAL SPORTS	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	TREND
Field Hockey - Summer	492	494	437	430	308	Even
Field Hockey - Spring	165	190	116	-	80	Down
Field Hockey - Fall 7v7 Adult	66	44	31	30	33	Down
Lacrosse - Sr League -Girls	-	30	30	-	30	Even
<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>Down</b>

*Table III–12: Adult Participation in County-sponsored Leagues*

ADULT SPORTS	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	TREND
Baseball	30	31	29	21	28	Even
Basketball	52	53	55	55	-	Even
Flag Football	60	43	35	34	13	Down
Kickball	30	28	16	-	-	Even
Soccer	68	60	55	27	38	Even
Softball	183	150	134	27	94	Even
<b>TOTAL ADULT TEAMS</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>Down</b>



facilities. Input from comments received during the LPPRP survey, as well as many comments from residents during public outreach efforts highlighted interest among residents for more trails, more community spaces such as dog parks, more boat ramps and cartop launches, and more indoor recreation facilities.

More pickleball courts and more multipurpose fields have been demanded by the increasing numbers of park users. Over-striping of existing under-used tennis courts with pickleball markings and adding field lighting systems at existing athletic fields are two strategies which the Department is using in attempts to address these needs. This LPPRP and the County's Capital Improvement Plan include initiatives to build more fields and more courts, including indoor courts, to meet these demands. An expanded trail network and more water access locations are also unfulfilled needs, as demonstrated by the proximity analysis included in the LPPRP.

## Surveys

### Department Survey

Anne Arundel County conducted an interactive online survey from March 6, 2021, to May 15, 2021. The survey was made available in English and Spanish. The survey provided a an engaging and graphically rich user experience that was accessible by computer, tablet, or smartphone. In total, 2,813 people completed the survey. About 25% of respondents took the Survey on their smartphones.

The survey was organized into three parts: demographic section, an interactive map, a priority exercise, and questions about current participation and future need.

### Survey Demographics

In total, 2,813 people completed the survey. A majority of the respondents (77%) were white and tended to be relatively affluent (62% report household income over \$150,000). These numbers vary slightly from the Countywide demographics in Anne Arundel County where, according to 2019 American Communities Survey estimates, 68% of residents are white and the median household income is closer to \$101,000.

In the survey, 58% had between one and three people in the home, 42% had four or more people. 30% have children under 17 in the house and 14% have a resident that is 65 or above. Compared to 2019 population estimates, 75% of residents have between one and three people in the home and 25% have four or more people in the home.

Table III–13: **2019 Demographics<sup>1</sup> vs Survey Demographics**

Council District	2019 Population	% of Total Population	Total Responses	% of Total Responses
District 1	81,732	14%	138	5%
District 2	77,963	14%	149	5%
District 3	80,697	14%	351	12%
District 4	94,870	17%	374	13%
District 5	76,152	13%	379	13%
District 6	79,877	14%	494	18%
District 7	79,984	14%	658	23%
Outside	-	-	66	2%
Unknown	-	-	204	7%
TOTAL	571,275		2,813	

1 2015-2019 US American Communities Survey

Respondents were also asked to provide a zip code at the end of the survey. In addition, respondents could drop pins on a map near parks. Using the zip codes as well as the geographic references from the pins on the map, analysts were able to interpret the data and assign respondents answers to specific Council District. An explanation of this methodology can be found in Appendix C. The Council District numbers represented in the survey compared to the population of each District is in Table III–13. The survey received a greater participation for residents of Council District 7 in southern Anne Arundel County and for eastern Council District 6 than for the northern County Council Districts 1 and 2.

The discrepancy in demographics of the respondents versus the Countywide demographics should be considered when reviewing these results, since the survey is not statistically representative of the County population, especially in Districts with more diverse residents. Countywide it is important for this feedback to be looked at in connection with the Park Equity Map.

### Interactive Map

The interactive map enabled participants to identify on a map the parks that they visit; water access, indoor sports, and trails they use; and safety issues and concerns. The map helped respondents zero in on locations of the County's 140+ parks, sanctuaries, and specialized recreational facilities. Respondents could use the map to comment or ask specific questions. The most comments were left closest to the following parks:

1. Quiet Waters Park (428 comments)
2. Kinder Farm Park (377 comments)
3. Downs Memorial Park (295 comments)
4. Beverly Triton Nature Park (174 comments)

Initial responses from the interactive map portion were used in the “Town Hall” Public Meetings which were held in each District. A full list of comments, organized by Park, can be found in Appendix C.

### Priority Exercise

Survey respondents were asked to rank what kind of sports and activities they are most interested in. The options were outdoor sports (courts, fields), natural areas and outdoor courses, water sports and recreation, community places, adventure sports, and indoor sports (courts, gym, rink). Countywide priorities fell into the following order:

1. Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses
2. Water Sports and Recreation
3. Outdoor Sports
4. Community Places
5. Indoor Sports
6. Adventure Sports

At the Council District level, Districts 3 and 4 differed slightly. Their top three priorities were Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses, Outdoor Sports, and Community Places. See Appendix C for an analysis of results by District.

There was also an “other” option where respondents could write in their priority. Upon further analysis of those answers, many fell within the original six categories. If they did not, they were largely concerned with trails, park programming, biking, dog parks, playgrounds, disc golf, and horse-back riding.

Other takeaways include:

- Though it was the #4 priority, common spaces where members of a community can interact, such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, tot lots, gardens, dog parks, historic or natural sites, were mentioned often in the “other” comments.
- Adventure sports lagged other categories. This could be related to the older demographic of the typical participant.
- Sports conducted within an enclosed building, such as basketball, fitness classes, volleyball, gymnastics, etc,

have an avid following, but was selected as a lower priority by participants. Further evaluation is needed to determine if this reflects the participant demographics or general satisfaction with available facilities and access compared to other recreational categories.

### Participation and Future Needs

In this part of the survey, respondents were asked the following questions:

1. Which of the following do you participate in or are likely to in the future?
2. Which of the following are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient place to play?

Those questions were asked for adventure sports, outdoor sports (courts/fields), community places, indoor area/gym/rink, natural areas and outdoor courts, and water sports and recreation. The following sections report the Countywide and Council District-level answers for the second question about which activities people were prevented from participating in because of lack of convenient space.

### **Adventure Sports**

Adventure sports included: archery, target and skeet range, paint ball, rock climbing, and off-road vehicle areas.

### **Priorities for Recreational Activities**

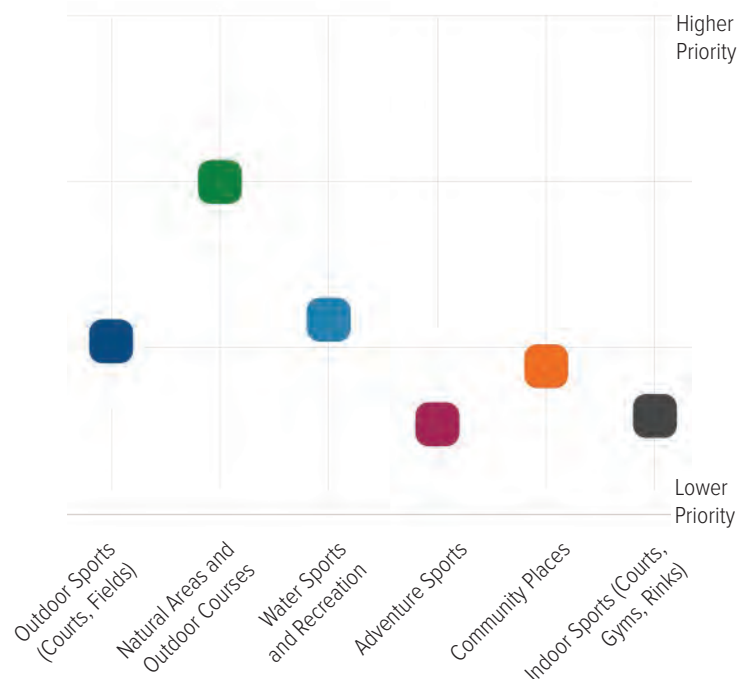


Figure III-2: **PriorityRanking**

Countywide and within each Council District, zip lines and rock climbing were the top two answers for needs. In Council District 4, paint ball was the third most popular answer, but it was among the bottom two everywhere else.

### **Outdoor Sports**

Outdoor sports included: softball, cricket, open fields, lacrosse, volleyball, pickleball, baseball, multi-purpose, track and field, basketball, handball, and tennis. Countywide, the three highest needs were pickleball, tennis, and open fields. Track and field and volleyball were also within the top three needs in Council Districts 1, 2, and 3.

### **Community Places**

Community places include playgrounds, outdoor concerts, picnic areas, community and recreation centers, garden plots, farmers markets, special events, gardens, dog beaches, picnic pavilions, dog parks, therapeutic and adaptive sites, historic sites, petting zoos, and scenic overlooks. Countywide, the top needs were outdoor concerts, gardens, community and recreation centers, and farmers markets. Dog parks also rated high in Council Districts 1 and 3, picnic areas were rated high in Council Districts 4 and 7, and scenic overlooks rated high in Districts 5 and 6.

### **Indoor Areas**

Indoor areas included indoor field sports, ice skating, volleyball, tennis, gymnastics and dance, hockey, roller hockey, basketball, handball, pickleball, and fitness/yoga/Zumba. Countywide, Fitness/yoga/Zumba, ice skating, and pickleball were listed highest in need. Gymnastics and dance were also rated highly in Council Districts 2 and 4 while hockey was rated high in District 3.

### **Natural Areas**

Natural areas included equestrian trails, mountain bike trails, fitness trails, disc golf courses, equestrian skills areas, nature areas, and golf courses. Countywide, the biggest need was walking and biking trails, natural areas, and nature centers. Council District 3 was an outlier with mountain bike trails and skateboard parks ranked in the top three by respondents from that District. Council District 7 had fitness trails in the top three and this was within the top four needs in several other districts.

### **Water Sports**

Water sports options included water park, beach swimming, canoeing/kayaking/paddleboard, pier fishing, outdoor swimming, indoor swimming, and trailered boating. Countywide, the biggest need was water park, outdoor

swimming, and beach swimming. Indoor swimming was also listed as a top need in Council Districts 4 and 7 and was generally ranked higher in other Districts as well. Respondents from District 5 had canoeing/kayaking/paddleboarding in their top three needs as well.

### **Policy and other related questions**

Several other questions were asked in the survey including questions about land acquisition, Dairy Farm Park, lighting athletic fields, and synthetic versus turf fields. The answers were:

- 94% support further land acquisitions.
- 75% are aware of Dairy Farm Park and of those, the following uses are preferred future uses, in order of preference: passive recreation, maintain as agricultural use, preserve open space, active recreation.
- 73% support lighting athletic fields, 10% oppose, and 17% are not sure
- 46% want natural fields, 13% prefer turf, and 41% have no opinion.

### **State Surveys**

The State of Maryland conducted a statistically valid phone survey and a public open link online survey as part of the 2019 update of the 2019-2023 Maryland State LPPRP. These surveys asked residents for feedback regarding their participation and preferences in outdoor recreation activities, usage of state lands, and concerns and ideas for improving outdoor recreation experiences for all Marylanders. Both surveys posed the same questions in each. They survey data was broken down into region, with Anne Arundel County placed in the Southern region.

Of the total respondents, 31% were from the Southern region and only 9% of those respondents were from Anne Arundel. For this reason, the information is reported here, but not a lot of weight was placed on the survey results. Survey results were reported at the region, not county, level.

The most useful survey question in relation to the needs analysis was about the top two recreation areas to be added or improved. For the Southern region, the order of important was:

1. Trail based-recreation – 32% top or second priority
2. Park outdoor activities – 32% top or second priority
3. Water recreation – 28% top or second priority
4. Nature/wildlife related recreation – 12% top or second priority



5. Fishing – 10% top or second priority
6. All others got below 10%

### *Middle School Recreation & Parks Survey*

A survey about Anne Arundel's open space and recreation facilities was sent to the parents of students in grades 6, 7 and 8 in each of the County's 18 Middle Schools including:

- Annapolis MS
- Arundel MS
- Bates MS
- Brooklyn Park MS
- Central MS
- Chesapeake Bay MS
- Corkran MS
- George Fox MS
- Lindale MS
- MacArthur MS
- Magothy River MS
- Marley MS
- Meade MS
- Old Mill North MS
- Old Mill South MS
- Severn River MS
- Severna Park MS
- Southern MS

Out of the 407 Middle School students that participated in the survey, 145 were in Sixth Grade, 144 were in Seventh Grade, 116 were in Eighth Grade, and two did not say. The top favorite parks for these middle schoolers were:

- Kinder Farm Park (81 votes)
- Quiet Waters Park (57 votes)
- Downs Park (32 votes)
- Odenton GORC Park (18 votes)
- Broadneck Park (17 votes)
- Fort Smallwood Park (14 votes)
- Davidsonville Park (11 votes)
- Lake Waterford Park (10 votes)
- Bell Branch Park (9 votes)
- Sandy Point State Park (7 votes)

- Crofton Park (6 votes)
- Riva Park (5 votes)

The most popular activities noted by the middle school respondents in order were Outdoor Games (138 votes), Community Space (98 votes), Natural Areas (74 votes), Water (54 votes), Adventure Sports (28 votes).

When asked what the parks need, the most popular answer was Adventure Sports with 138 votes. The second most popular was Water Sports with 77 votes. Other popular answers included Fields with 58 votes and Natural Areas for Hiking with 56 votes.

## **Other Community Input**

### *Feedback from Plan2040 Engagement Process*

Plan2040 was adopted in May 2021. Discussion and surveys that informed Plan2040 also contemplated how parks, recreation, and open space will influence future investment and quality-of-life. Three themes that emerged from these discussions, along with detailed recommendations concerning land use policies, infrastructure, and open space. Principle themes, repeated in every forum were:

1. **Waterfront Access and Environmental programming.** Protection of the bay and the shoreline is a shared mission. Public access is part of that stewardship. Waterfront parks and access for boating, fishing, swimming, and fun, is also a key element of the county's recreational programming.
2. **Connect parks and local destinations, improve access and convenience.** In contemplating future development and conservation initiatives, envision parks and open space as a system, designed and managed in a manner that is accessible and equitable to all residents. Accessibility and Connectivity are key to providing a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents.
3. **Expand public open space inventory.** The pace of development in the County has elevated awareness that the development pattern of recent decades is undesirable and unsustainable. The public deliberation that informs Plan2040 confirmed a shift to planning for green space, agricultural land, stormwater management, and outdoor recreation as infrastructure, as essential as streets, pipes, and power.

## Plan Review

Plan2040, previous Small Area Plans, and the 2017 LPPRP were reviewed as part of the LPPRP planning process.

### Plan2040

Plan2040 Goal HC8 to "provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents" directly relates to the LPPRP. There are two Policies within this goal with five actions under the first and six actions under the second.

Plan2040 was adopted in May of 2021. Table III–14 lists the actions under each policy, the timeframe, and status. Many of the projects have not begun because of the recent plan adoption.

### Region Plans and Small Area Plans (SAPs)

Plan2040 sets up a process to prepare community-level comprehensive plans for nine Regions within the County (see Map II-9). The Region Planning process recognizes the variety of needs in different areas of the County and provides more opportunity for residents to participate in planning for the future of their communities. The Region Plans will align with the Goals and Policies of Plan2040 and build on the Small Area Plans prepared between 1998 to 2004. Each Region Plan is expected to include action strategies to address elements specific to each Region, such as parks and open space, agriculture, sea level rise, mobility, equity, and accessibility. Preparation of the Region Plans will be staggered over time based on the schedule adopted in Plan2040.

As Region Plans are developed, they will include recommendations for recreation, parks, and open space that will inform future updates of the LPPRP.

Because the Region Plans are not yet created, the recommendations from the previous 16 Small Area Plans (SAPs) were reviewed as part of this LPPRP. Many of the SAP recommendations were fulfilled through the 2006, 2013, and 2017 LPPRPs and others have been carried forward for consideration in this Plan. Almost all of the SAPs called for enhanced recreational opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds. Many of the SAPs discussed the need for more water access, and many also called for the development of more hiker, biker, and equestrian trails along with the development of parks for active and passive recreational uses.

### 2017 LPPRP

The action items from the 2017 LPPRP were reviewed as part of this plan. Many of the goals and action recommendations have been fulfilled. Some of the others are carried forward as action items in this LPPRP, while some others are no longer applicable or are otherwise not being recommended. Proposed projects are described below in County Priorities on page 78.

## "Town Hall" Public Meetings

The Department of Recreation and Parks, along with County Council members from each of the County's seven (7) Districts hosted a series of "Town Hall" listening sessions. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all of these meetings were held virtually using the Zoom platform. Those sessions were held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in June and July on the following dates:

- District 1: Hon. Sarah F. Lacey
  - » June 10, 2021 - 12 attendees
- District 2: Hon. Allison M. Pickard
  - » June 15, 2021, 18 attendees
- District 3: Hon. Nathan Volke
  - » July 8, 2021, 16 attendees
- District 4: Hon. Andrew Pruski
  - » June 17, 2021, 35 attendees
- District 5: Hon. Amanda Fiedler
  - » June 22, 2021, 32 attendees
- District 6: Hon. Lisa D. B. Rodvien
  - » July 13, 2021, 11 attendees
- District 7: Hon. Jessica Haire
  - » July 15, 2021, 54 attendees

The Town Hall meetings served as listening sessions for residents in each District. They were hosted by the department's Chief of Planning and Construction, Erica Jackson Matthews, and facilitated by Capital Project Manager Bruce A. Bruchey, with Planning Consultant, Mark Keener RA AICP (Pennoni Associates). In total, the sessions were attended by 158 registered participants, and many offered comments and suggestions that are incorporated into the Summary of Needs. Public comments from these meetings can be found in Appendix B.

Table III–14: **Status/Timeframe of Plan2040 Recreation Implementation Actions**

Policies and Actions	Status/Timeframe (short 0-5; mid 5-10; long 10+ yrs)
<b>Policy HC8.1: Recreation and parks facilities should be accessible to all residents and provide a variety of recreational opportunities.</b>	
Complete a comprehensive Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) self assessment of County Parks to identify all ADA non-compliant areas within all parks and facilities (including but not limited to trails, buildings, and site amenities).	Ongoing
Once the ADA assessment is complete, prepare an implementation plan to provide facilities for all.	Ongoing
The departments of Recreation and Parks, and Aging and Disabilities, and the Board of Education should continue to collaborate on the development and maximum utilization of indoor and outdoor space for leisure and recreational activities for all.	Ongoing
Develop a comprehensive Countywide Trails Plan that analyzes where there are deficiencies in the current existing and planned network with the intent of linking existing and future neighborhoods to community facilities, parks, points of interest, and major activity centers. This Plan shall include a comprehensive network of off-road bicycle, pedestrian, and recreation trails in the southern half of the County.	Short-term
Evaluate the design standards for neighborhood parks.	Short-term
<b>Policy HC8.2: Improve and expand recreational opportunities for all communities to have proximity to facilities and programs.</b>	
Promote connectivity to existing and/or planned recreational spaces through the subdivision and site development process.	Ongoing
Assess current and future needs for local community centers. Include an evaluation of needs identified in the Region Area Plans, as well as other areas that may be underserved with regard to multipurpose community space. Review opportunities for collaboration with the Board of Education for combining school usage with new multi-purpose centers.	Short-term
Acquire approximately 500* additional acres of land for active recreation projects, targeting the land acquisition recommendations based on the Access and Equity Assessments in the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan. Continue to acquire additional land to be used for parks, open space, trails and greenway preservation.	Short to Mid Term
Upgrade existing parks and develop new parks in accordance with the Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan and with new initiatives identified in the Department of Recreation and Parks Capital Improvement Program.	Ongoing
Continue to use Program Open Space and other State and Federal grant programs as available to implement these projects.	Ongoing
Develop new and upgrade existing parks and recreation facilities in underserved areas based on the Access and Equity Analyses in the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.	Ongoing

\* An original goal of 315 acres was included in Plan2040. However, DRP has adopted a goal of adding 500 acres, per the Green Infrastructure Plan.



## Summary of Needs

### *Countywide needs*

At a Countywide level, the following are major takeaways from the surveys, Town Hall meetings, demographic analysis, visitation reports, and plan review efforts:

- Natural area preservation, and land conservation, and historic preservation are high priorities for county residents. There is also wide support for land acquisition.
- Broadly, there is also a growing desire for future county projects to include some of the following, which are consistent with the age change in demographics:
  - » Pickleball courts
  - » Dog parks
  - » Playgrounds and play fields
  - » Boat and water access
  - » Park programming for all ages (like fitness classes)
  - » Ice skating
  - » Walking and biking trails
  - » Gardens
- Support and need for new, updated, and maintained walking and biking trails is consistent throughout the survey. There seems to also be consensus around an expanding countywide trail system.
- Water sports are very popular. There is a desire for more outdoor and indoor swimming as well as beach access for swimming. Water parks were also a high priority across the County.
- There is support and desire for more programming in parks including but not limited to fitness classes, fitness trails, outdoor concerts, and more.
- Park users are generally very appreciative of the recreational opportunities the County provides. The majority of comments were very positive. Some survey responses offer observed instances of lack of maintenance, ongoing mischief, and traffic conflicts of concern.

### *District 1*

District 1 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Natural areas and green space
- Dog parks
- Community gardens
- New waterfront opportunities and recreation opportunities in general in the north and west of the District
- Track and field spaces and volleyball courts

### *District 2*

District 2 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Track and field facilities
- Public water access
- Outdoor swimming pools
- Gymnastics and dance
- Track and field spaces and volleyball courts

### *District 3*

District 3 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Natural areas and green space
- Trails, trail maintenance, and trail safety at crossings
- Adventure sports facilities (pump track, mountain biking, skateboard park)
- Dog parks
- Hockey
- Bocce court

#### *District 4*

District 4 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Soccer and Turf fields
- Senior resident activities
- Playgrounds
- Indoor swimming
- Water access
- Gymnastics and dance
- Pavilions and picnic areas

#### *District 5*

District 5 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Open space acquisition
- Walking trails
- Access for cartop boat access (canoeing, kayaking, paddleboarding)
- Adaptive sports
- Adventure sports (pump track)
- Scenic areas and overlook
- Track and field facilities

#### *District 6*

District 6 residents reflected in both the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Natural areas, conservation, and green space
- Water access, beach swimming, and access for cartop boat access (canoeing, kayaking, paddleboarding)
- Walking and biking trails
- Scenic areas and overlooks
- Track and field facilities, especially for youth
- Ice skating

#### *District 7*

District 7 residents reflected in the survey, public meetings, and other inputs that some of their highest priorities and needs are:

- Community gathering spaces
- Fitness trail
- Pavilions and picnic areas
- Natural areas and conservation
- Water access and swimming pools
- Track and field, especially for youth

## Proximity and Equity Analyses

The State's 2022 LPPRP guidelines include two required analyses that were first used in the 2017 LPPRP process: a Proximity Analysis and an Equity Analysis. This section presents the results of those analyses.

### *Proximity Analysis*

The Proximity Analysis is a geospatial analysis that compares the location of the County's park and recreation facilities (as identified in the Inventory in Appendix A) to the distribution of its population. The intent of the Proximity Analysis is "to generally determine where the public can readily access these amenities and where they cannot" (2022 LPPRP Guidelines).

As per the State guidelines, the County mapped a series of "catchment areas" for its parks and recreation facilities, specifically:

- Catchment areas for parks and recreation facilities in the District 7 were assigned 5-mile catchment areas, because of its largely rural development pattern;
- Catchment areas for all other parks and recreation facilities in the County were ½ mile, except in cases described below.

Maps III–3 through III–8 show the catchment areas for various elements of the County's system. Map III–3 shows the overall park and recreation system, with ½ mile and 5-mile buffers, as described above.

Map III–4 shows public water access locations. This map uses a 5-mile catchment area for boat ramps and cartop launch sites, reflecting the automobile-oriented purpose of those sites. All other water access facilities have a ½ mile buffer. Community water access locations and private docks are not shown.

Map III–5 shows both ½ mile and 5-mile catchment areas for the County's existing trails. The proposed trails are on the map, but the buffers are not around those facilities. The use of two different catchment areas reflects the observation that these trails are often "destinations" for individuals who do not necessarily live within walking distance.

Map III–6 shows both ½ mile and 5-mile catchment areas for parks with picnic facilities. Again, the use of two catchment areas reflects users who drive to picnic facilities, as well as those who walk.

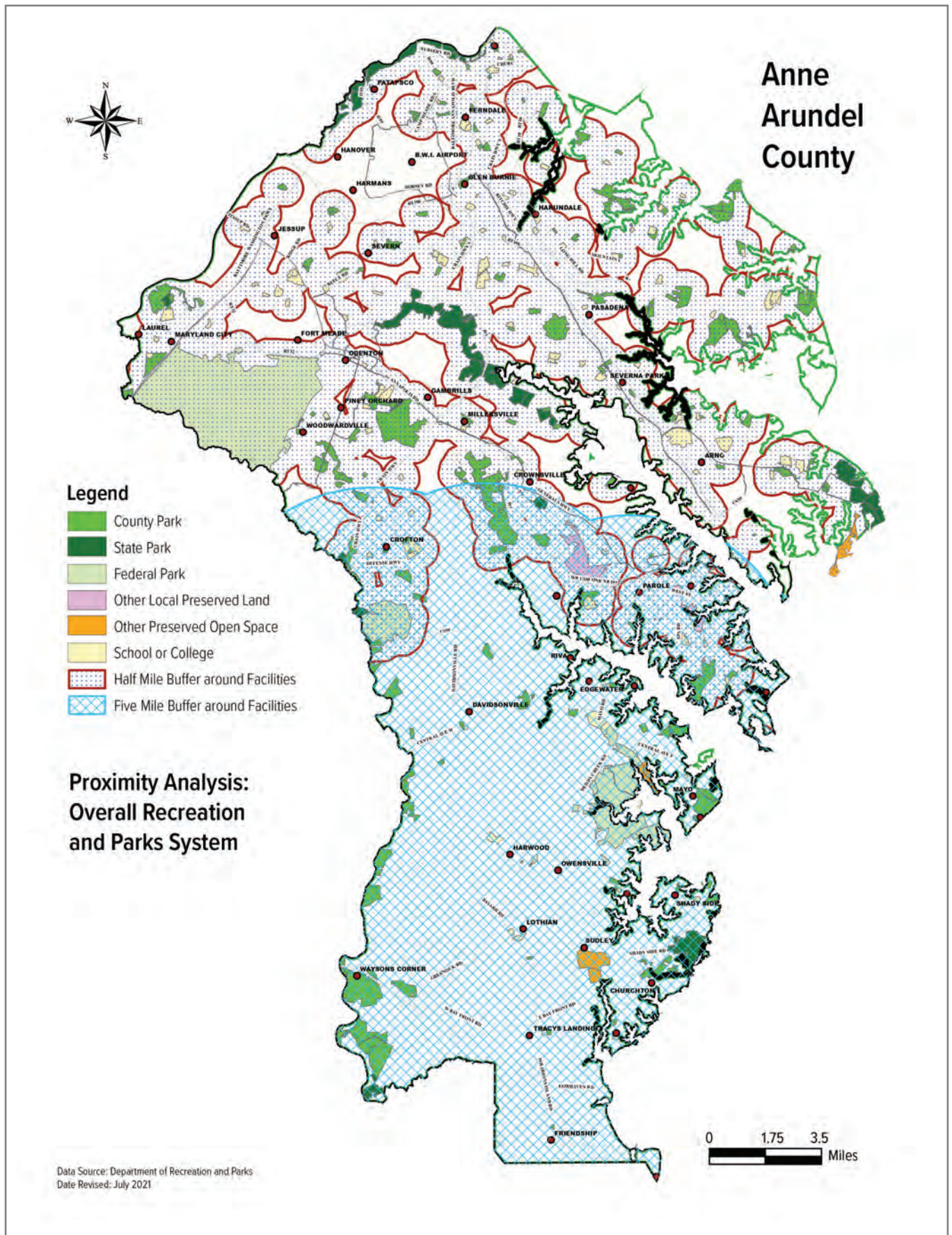
Map III–7 shows ½ mile and 5-mile buffers around athletic fields and Map III–8 shows ½ mile and 5-mile buffers around indoor recreation facilities (including gymnasiums with basketball courts, aquatic centers, and similar facilities). While some residents may walk or bicycle to these facilities, their primary use is to meet Countywide demand, such as through sports leagues.

The Proximity Analysis maps suggest the following conclusions about the County's recreation and park system:

- Overall, a substantial portion of County residents are within ½ mile of at least one park or recreation facility. Notable gaps in relatively densely populated areas include north of Fort Meade, and near Hanover and Harmans. All of District 7 is within five miles of at least one park or recreation facility;
- Most of the County, except for District 1 and the western side of District 4, is reasonably close to public water access facilities (i.e., within five miles of a ramp or cartop launch site). The relative lack of such access in the west side of the County is largely a function of geography: there are few navigable water bodies in this part of the County, although additional cartop launch locations have been considered along the Patuxent River;
- Most of the County (except for a portion of District 7 and small portions of west District 4 and eastern District 3) is within five miles of one or more existing or planned regional trails. The County's most highly populated areas (i.e., Annapolis, Glen Burnie, Severna Park, Odenton, and Crofton), are generally within ½ mile of at least one such trail; and
- Athletic fields and indoor recreation facilities tend to be clustered, leaving gaps throughout the County—most notably in relatively densely populated areas in parts of District 1 and District 4. This is consistent with the observations documented throughout this LPPRP, and reflects the difficulty of finding, purchasing, and constructing these facilities.

Overall, as documented throughout this LPPRP, Anne Arundel County provides a diverse and well-distributed system of parks and recreation facilities, in addition to unique State and Federal parks and recreational lands (i.e., Sandy Point State Park and the Patuxent NWR). The County acknowledges spatial gaps in some specific types of facilities. These gaps reflect the County's geography and settlement patterns, as well as limitations in land availability and budget. Many of the County's priorities for recreation and park facility development respond to the gaps identified in the Proximity Analysis.







Map III-4: Proximity Analysis - Water Access

Anne  
Arundel  
County



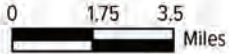
Proximity Analysis:  
Facilities with  
Water Access

Legend

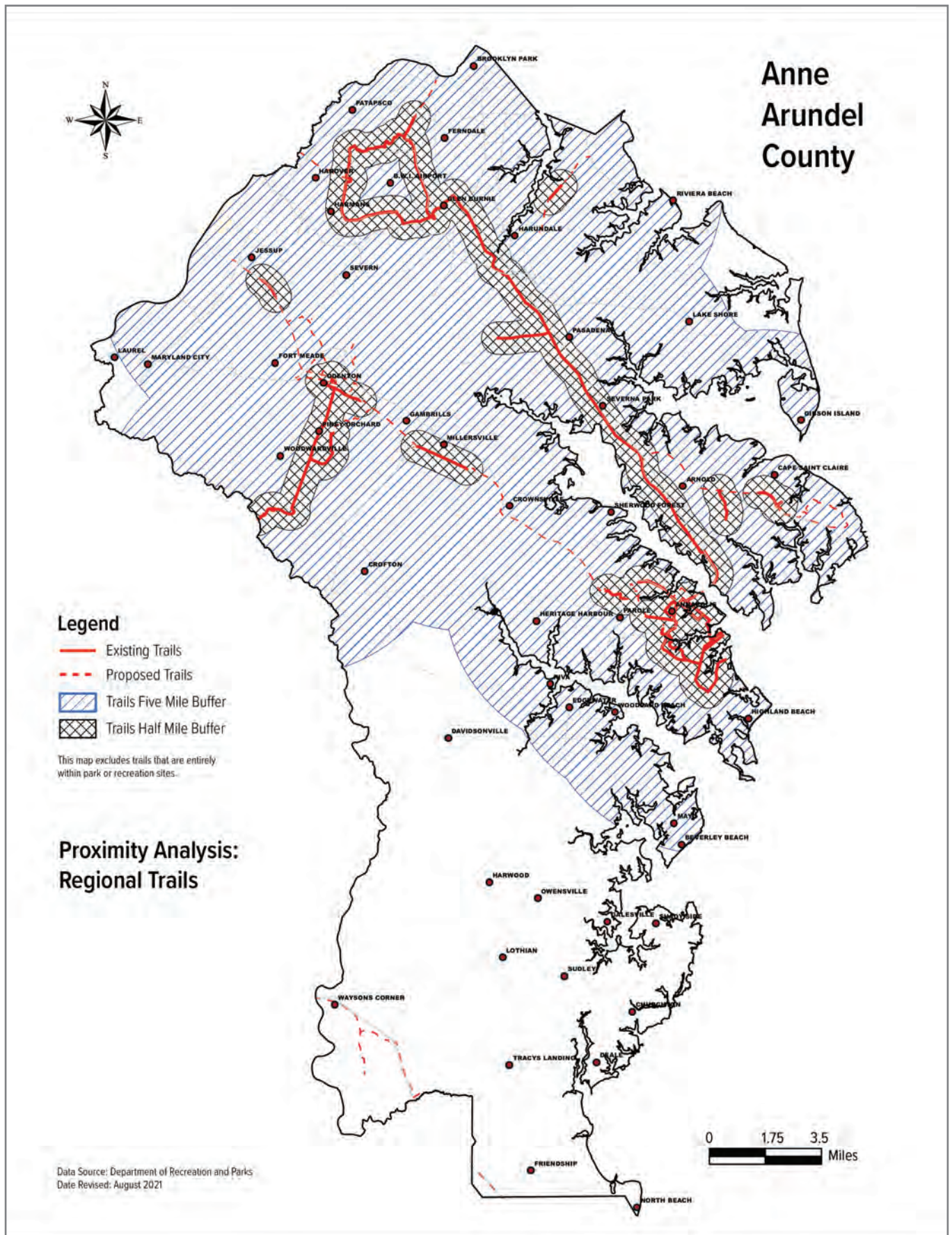
- Boat Ramp Facilities
- Other Water Access Sites
- Car Top Launch Facilities
- Other Water Access Sites Half Mile Buffer
- Car Top Launch Site 5 Mile Buffer
- Boat Ramp 5 Mile Buffer
- County Park
- State Park
- Federal Park
- Other Local Preserved Land
- Other Preserved Open Space
- School or College

\*Other Water Access Sites\* may include uses such as hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, swimming, and/or fishing.

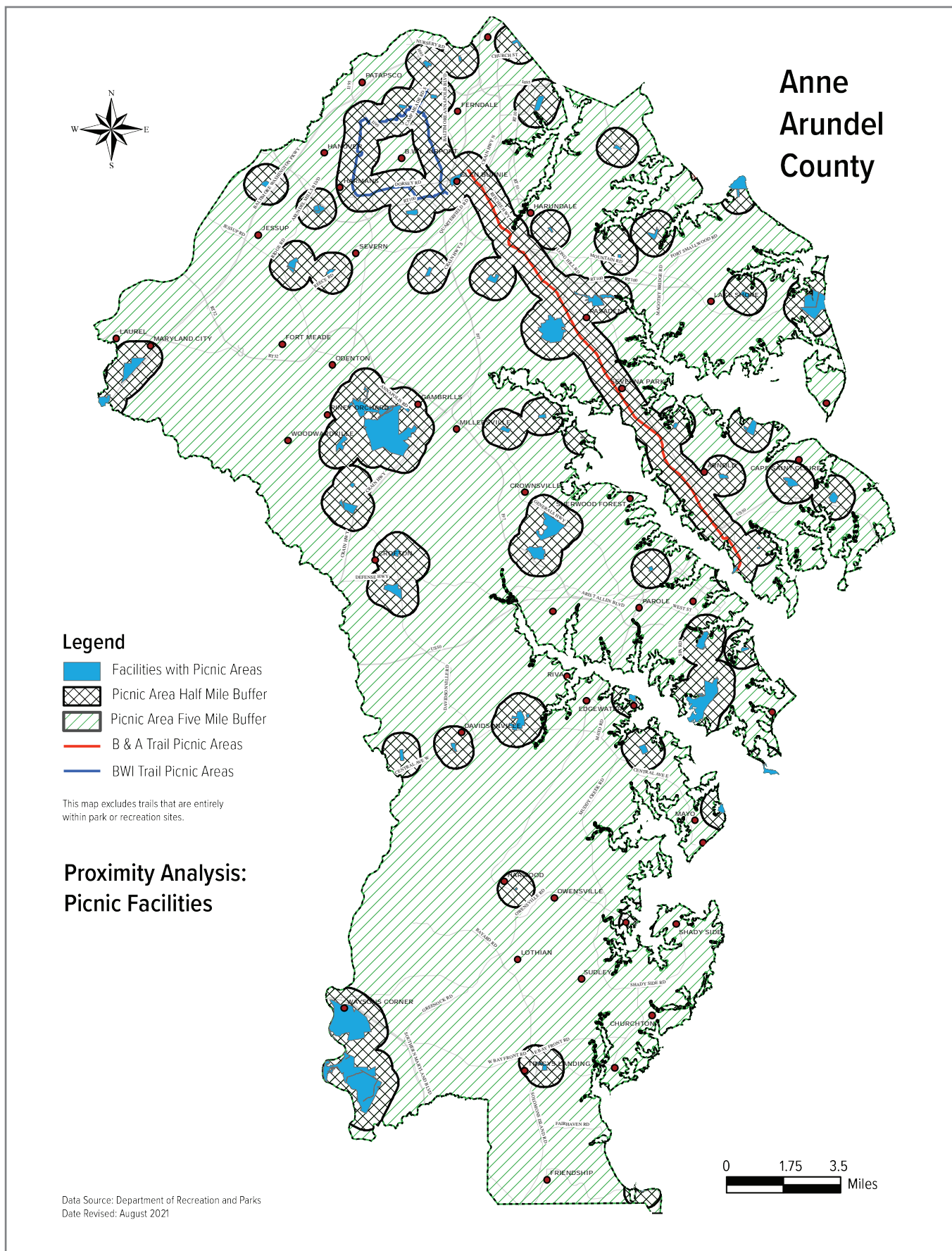
Data Source: Department of Recreation and Parks.  
Date Revised: August 2021

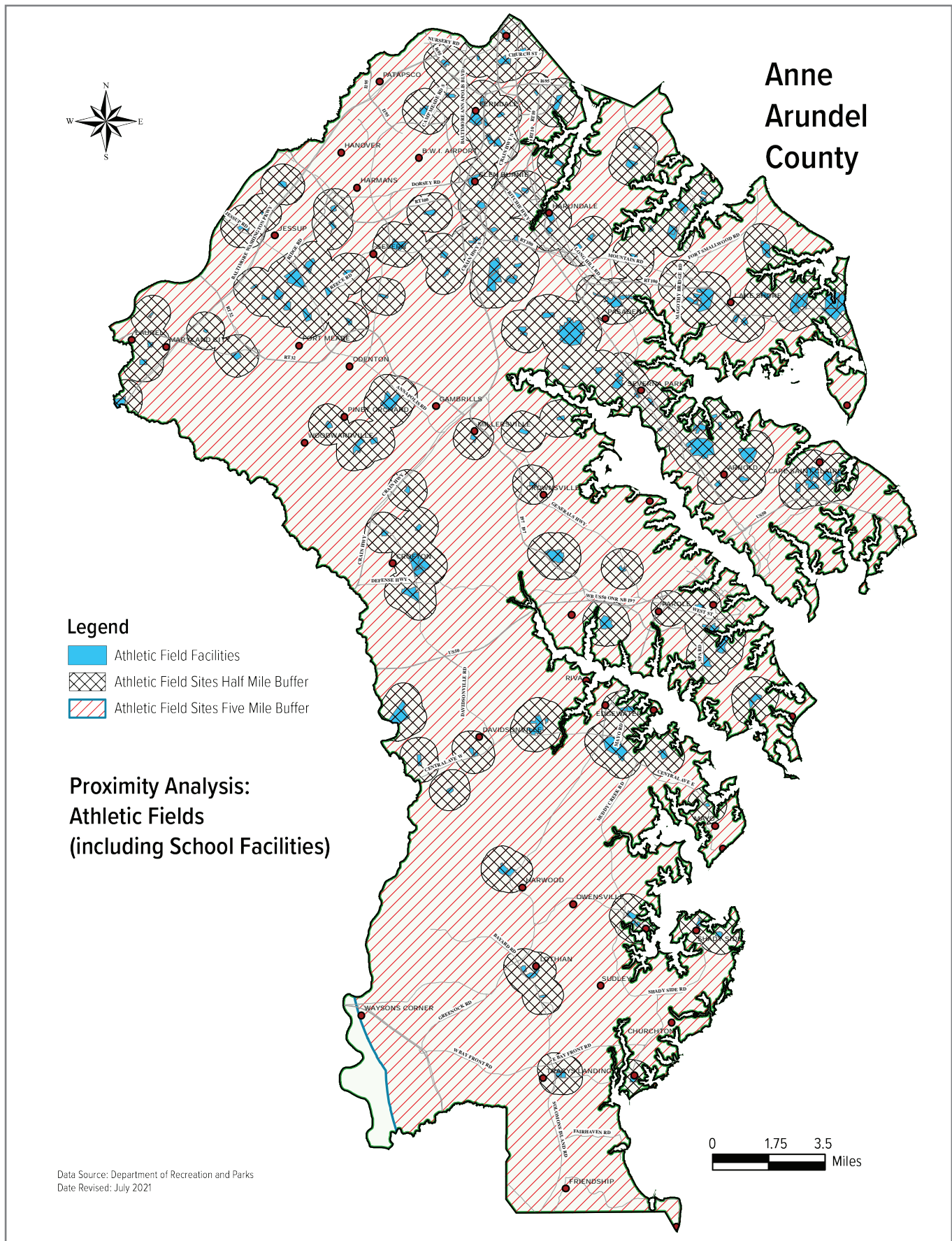


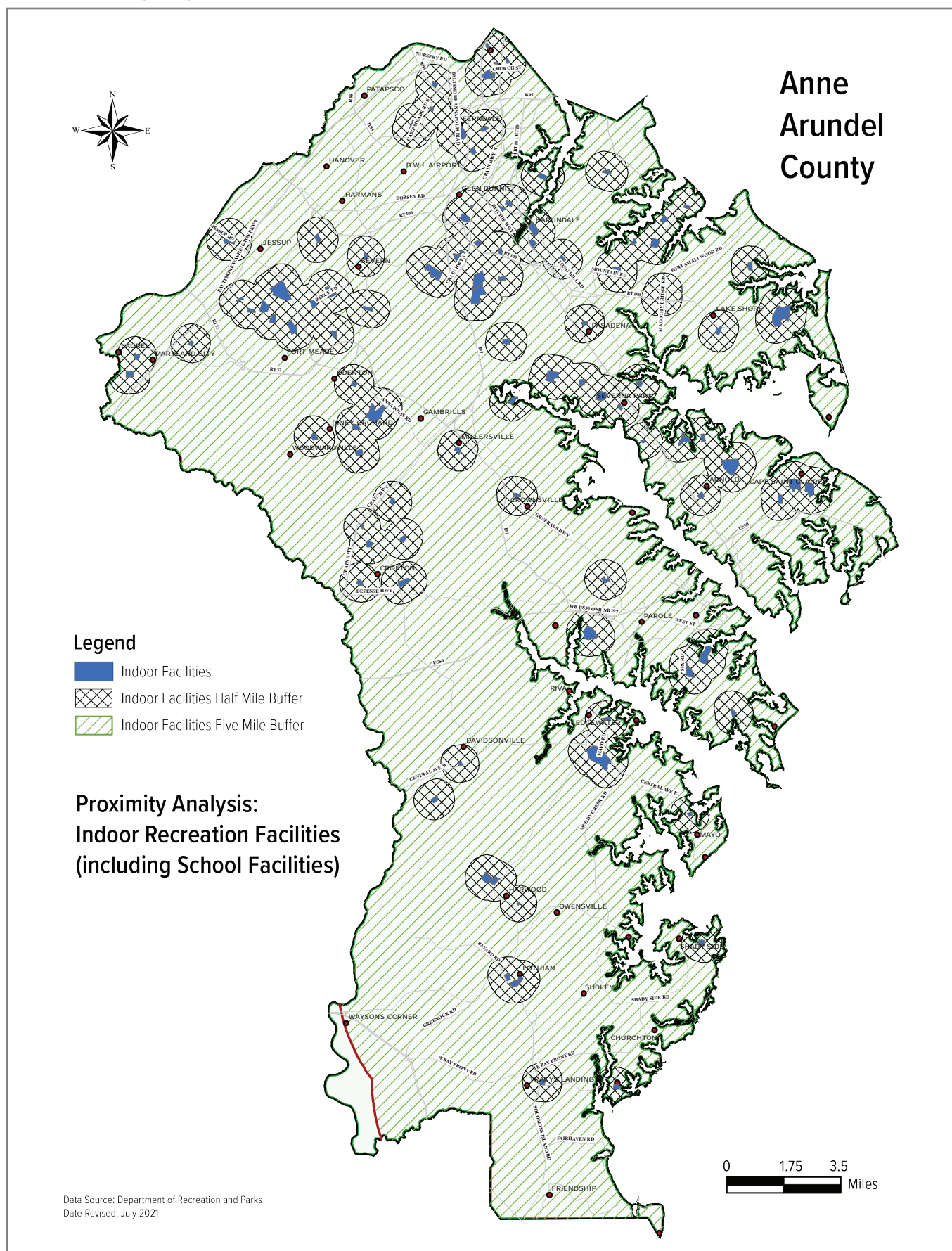














## Park Equity Analysis

The Park Equity Analysis evaluates the degree to which parks and recreation facilities are accessible to populations that are typically underserved by such resources, including areas of high population density, high concentrations of poverty, and high concentrations of children.

Leading up to the 2017 round of statewide LPPRP revisions, DNR prepared an Equity Analysis GIS dataset. This dataset was updated in 2020 in partnership with the University of Maryland School of Public Health. Map III–9 depicts this dataset.

The updated model identifies areas in need of park space by identifying areas of underserved communities. This was done by defining the number of children, senior residents density, race, linguistic isolation, and the average income of a Census Tract Block Group. Calculations were developed using the methodology in Figure III–3.

The factors were scored and then added together to produce a combined park equity score. Every Census Tract Block Group in the state was assigned a score of for a combined

score. The park distance and non-white population fields are given a weight of 1, while the remaining 7 fields are each given a weight of 1/7.

Areas shown as having the greatest need for park and recreation facilities (i.e., the areas of High and Medium-High Need) include:

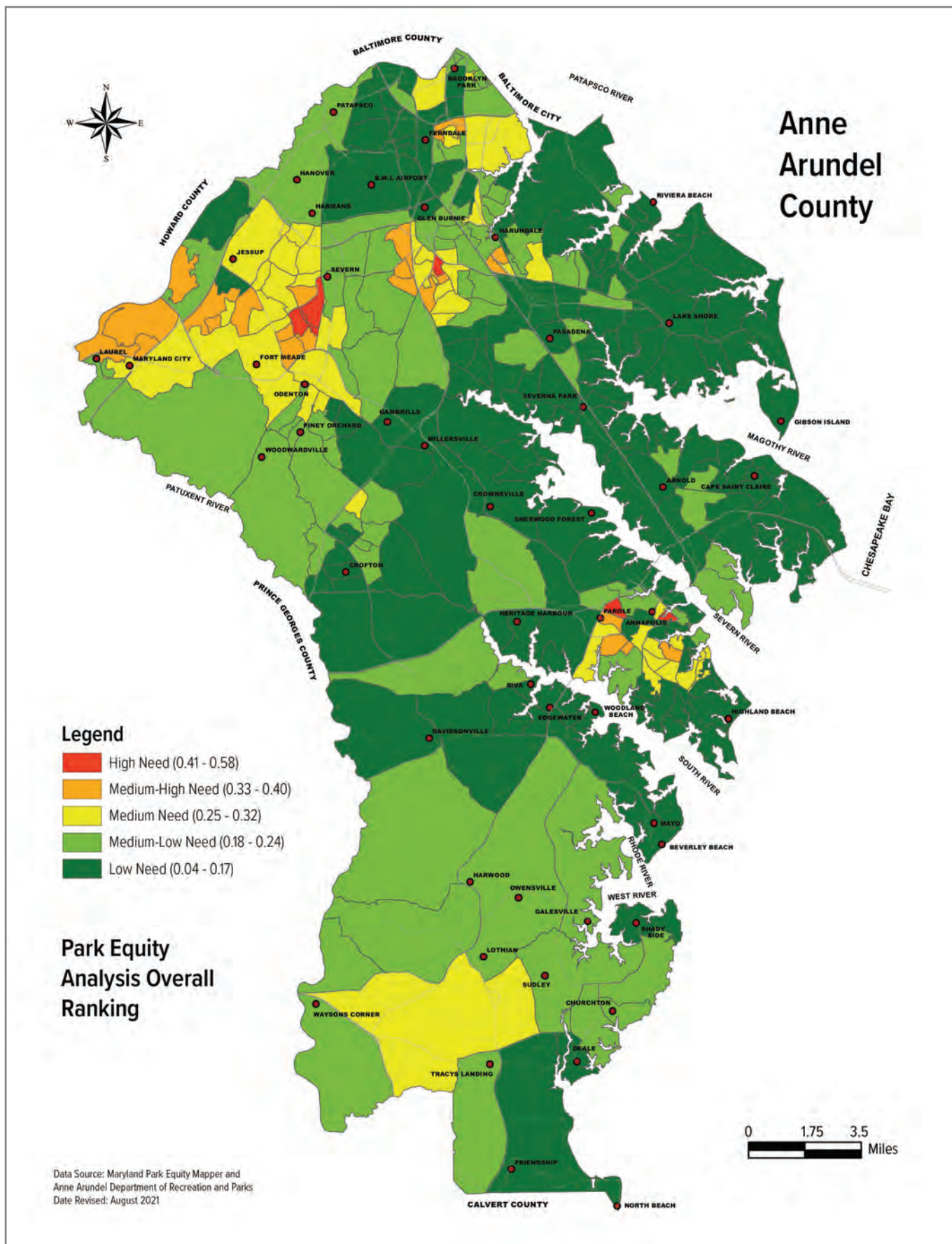
- Annapolis-Parole;
- East of Ferndale;
- Areas north of Fort Meade and south of Severn;
- Glen Burnie and areas to the south;
- South of Jessup; and
- Laurel-Maryland City

These areas are generally home to the County's highest population density and lowest-income residents. This is consistent with the Proximity Analysis, which also showed gaps for certain kinds of facilities (i.e., athletic fields, water access) in this area. Many of the County's priorities for recreation and park facility development respond to the gaps identified in the Equity and Proximity Analyses.

Figure III–3: **Park Equity Methodology**

Population Density Score	Number of residents per residential acres (as defined by urban lands in the 2002 Maryland Department of Planning land use/land cover data). Higher density equals a higher score x 2.
Low Wealth Score	The ratio of household at or below 185% of the county's poverty level. The higher ratio equals a higher score.
Children Under 18 Score	Ratio of the number of children age 17 & under relative to the total population. The higher ratio equals a higher score.
Adults 65 and Older Score	Ratio of the number of adults age 65 & older relative to the total population. The higher ratio equals a higher score.
Non-White Score	Ratio of non-white to white individuals in that census tract compared to the average ratio of the state. The higher ratio equals a higher score. (0-10).
Park Distance Score	An average of distances of each location in a block group to the closest park
Public Transit Distance Score	The Public Transit Distance Score is based on the Accessibility Index from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This is an index of the relative accessibility of a block group compared to other block groups in the same metropolitan region, as measured by travel time to the working-age population via transit. Higher values indicate more accessibility.
Walkability Index Score	<p>The Walkability Index Score is based on the US Environmental Protection Agency model which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Walkability Index (relative metric, higher values indicate conditions generally more conducive to pedestrian travel)</li> <li>• Employment and household entropy</li> <li>• 8-tier employment entropy (denominator set to the static 8 employment types in the CBG)</li> <li>• Street intersection density (weighted, auto-oriented intersections eliminated)</li> <li>• Distance from population weighted centroid to nearest transit stop (meters) but remember that significant transit capacity has been added since the date of source data used in this analysis (TRAX green line, extensions to other lines, FrontRunner south, etc).</li> </ul>
Linguistic Isolation Score	The Linguistic Isolation score is a measure of the number of households in which every member over the age of 14 speaks a non-English language and none speak English "very well".

Source: [https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/ParkEquity\\_model.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/ParkEquity_model.aspx)



Age is also an important equity consideration in the County's recreational facilities and programming—both for access for young people and teens as well as seniors. Athletic fields and restrooms at new and retrofitted facilities are accessible by paved pathways with gradual slopes. The Department offers numerous senior recreation programs at swim centers and indoor recreation facilities. As discussed in "Progress Since 2017" on page 78, the Department is pursuing both a new swim center and an intergenerational center. The Department continues to provide additional recreational programming and provide more pickleball courts (both of which are particularly demanded by older residents). The County's extensive Trail system addresses the walking, jogging, and biking needs of the senior community.

More information on the Park Equity Model can be found here: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/Pages/ParkEquity.aspx>

## Policy Considerations

Policy considerations play an important role in determining how the results of the needs analysis should be expressed in the County's priority capital project recommendations below. This LPPRP establishes the following policies to guide capital project recommendations:

1. Make the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing parks a priority over the development of new parks. Many of the County's parks are 30 to 40 years old and have deteriorated to the point where routine maintenance cannot make them serviceable. As part of this effort facilities in poor or even derelict condition will be reviewed and repaired, removed, or potentially repurposed (converted to other uses). Included in these efforts are the elimination of barriers and other facility modifications to ensure accessibility to all residents and to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. Increase facilities supply by enhancing existing assets rather than developing new assets. This means emphasizing projects like turf fields, lights, and drainage that allow existing facilities to be used more frequently or for longer periods of time.
3. Fixing parking deficiencies at existing parks and recreation facilities is a priority. This includes adding new parking if vehicle parking is negatively impacting neighborhoods near parks.
4. When identifying new parks and recreation facilities, emphasize locations that address gaps identified by the Proximity Analysis and Park Equity Analysis.
5. Prioritize the development of indoor facilities to meet the demand for indoor sports courts and other recreation spaces. This could include enhancement of facilities at existing schools (i.e., constructing separate access and restrooms, so gymnasiums can be used without affecting school staffing or functions) or, where fiscally justified, construction of new community recreation centers.
6. Complete the development of the planned trails described in "Trails" on page 51 and also emphasize the construction of small connectors, such as those between trails and schools or other common destinations for non-motorized travelers. Investment in these small linkages can greatly improve overall trail connectivity, enhancing both the recreational and transportation function of the County's trail system.
7. Addressing the recreation and related health needs of the County's growing senior population is an important priority. As discussed above, the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Department of Aging and Disabilities cooperate on an on-going basis, but a formal planning effort to identify address the needs of the aging population and those with special needs is warranted.
8. As new facilities are built or rehabilitated, the principles of sustainable design, green building and landscape technologies will be considered as a Department. The County has committed to achieving the equivalent of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver rating on all new buildings over 10,000 square feet.
9. School Recreation Parks are an important component of the County's parks and recreation system. The Department will continue to work with AACPS on shared use of these facilities, including developing policies, procedures, and agreements that maximize the availability of these facilities to both the Department and AACPS.
10. Public-private partnerships may be a suitable way to develop some kinds of recreation facilities, including reuse/adaptation of existing buildings. The County is working with private groups to evaluate opportunities for using public land and private dollars. Examples include special use facilities like BMX/skate parks and indoor facilities for activities such as basketball, volleyball, and tennis.
11. Continue efforts to identify, conserve, acquire, and/or otherwise protect natural resources, agricultural and open space lands.



## Progress Since 2017

Overall, Anne Arundel County accomplished all but four (4) recreation land acquisitions and acquired 86% of the acreage identified in the goals of the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan. Table III–15 gives an overview.

The Department acquired some 261 acres of land for recreational use, 54 acres less than was identified in the 2017 LPPRP however, the need to acquire another 85 acres was eliminated by making use of existing, previously acquired

properties. Recreation and Parks decisions to use an existing park site in Millersville (33.1 acres) to satisfy the need for a multi-purpose athletic fields/complex in the County's west area, eliminated the need to acquire 50 acres. Similarly, the choice to select the existing Provinces Park as the site for the new West County Indoor Swim Center ended the need to acquire 20 acres of land for an aquatic center and choosing an existing site adjacent to the Odenton Library eliminated the need to acquire 15 acres for a community park in the Odenton/Fort Meade area.

Table III–15: **Acreage Progress Since 2017**

Type and Specific Location	Acreage Needed	Acreage Acquired
<b>RECREATION LAND</b>		
Community Park Glen Burnie area	30 acres	Not acquired
Expansion of Jessup Park	30 acres	Not acquired
Multipurpose athletic fields Linthicum/BWI area	20 acres	Not acquired
Indoor Sports Facility North/East area	5 acres	Not acquired
Multipurpose athletic fields/complex Pasadena/Marley Neck area	50 acres	Acquired 71.8 acres for Marley Creek Park
Multipurpose athletic fields/complex South County/Edgewater area	70 acres	Transfer pending of 109.7-former water reclamation facility site from the Department of Public Works
Multipurpose athletic fields/complex West area	50 acres	No acquisition - 33.1-acre County site in Millersville selected for use
Boat ramp and associated parking	20 acres	6.8-acre site South area with boat ramp leased at Discovery Village
Water Park and Aquatic Center location TBD	20 acres	No acquisition - existing park site selected for use for new Indoor Swim Center
Multipurpose athletic fields/complex West area	50 acres	Acquired Crownsville site of which approx. 50 acres will be used for athletic fields
Indoor Sports Facility West/South area	5 acres	Acquired 22.9 acres for South Shore Park
Community Park Odenton/Fort Meade area	15 acres	No acquisition - existing park site selected for use for Odenton Community Park
Sub-total Recreation Land	315 acres	261.2 acres
<b>GREENWAYS, PARKLAND AND OPEN SPACE</b>		
Acquire acres throughout the Country	750 acres	Acquired 156.8 acres at Bacon Ridge Natural Area Acquired 0.3 acres at Brewer Pond Natural Area Acquired 2.3 acres for Broadneck Peninsula Trail Acquired 1.9 acres for South Shore Park Acquired 12.4 acres for Deale Community Park Acquired 191.3 acres at Deep Cove Natural Area Acquired 200 acres at Eisenhower Golf Course Acquired 5 acres Gresham Historic House Acquired 17 acres at Patuxent River Greenway - Little Patuxent South Acquired 19.4 acres at Quiet Waters Park Acquired 1.1 acres for South Shore Trail Acquired 28.3 acres for Valentine Creek Park Acquired 15.3 acres for West County Park
Sub-total -Greenways, Parkland and Open Space	750 acres	651.1 acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,065 acres</b>	<b>912.3 acres</b>
		<b>Difference: 152.7</b>

# County Projects and Priorities

This section describes the Department of Recreation and Parks' plans for meeting its land acquisition, facility development, and rehabilitation needs through 2031 and beyond.

Following the state guidance for the 2022 LPPRP, the County goals are context-specific and tied to the Needs, Proximity, and Equity Analyses completed earlier in this Chapter.

Table III–17 lists the County's short, medium, and long-range capital projects and this section focused on specific priorities. In developing these priorities, consideration was given to need relative to:

- The results of the demand, proximity, and equity analysis (including public input);
- Policy considerations;
- Countywide needs versus relative needs in the different Council Districts—including the need to ensure that all areas of the County are adequately served;
- Specific needs in the City of Annapolis;
- Efficiency of recreation service delivery with respect to location and use;
- Potential for meeting recreational facility needs through joint use, especially at public schools; and
- The relationship of projects to State and County goals discussed in this Chapter.

The projects are in three timeframes and in three groups of projects.<sup>5</sup> The time frames are short range (2022 to 2026), mid-range (2027 to 2031), and long-range (2032 and beyond). The project groupings are acquisition and development projects, development projects with no associated acquisition, and rehabilitation projects.

Table III–17 is a similar to long-range CIP and contains more projects than will likely be completed through 2031. The intent is to list all the desired projects in one place, for use in developing the annual capital budget and CIP. While Table III–17 provides a phased approach to meeting the needs identified in the LPPRP, this Plan does not supersede the Department's capital projects development process which includes budget appropriation, infrastructure analysis, and public engagement efforts, as well as design, permitting and

construction. As with any long-range plan, the LPPRP helps Recreation and Parks to target resources, ensure alignment with other County policies and planning objectives, and establish sound recommendations and implementation plans. Over time, as priorities change, projects may move from the short range to the medium or long range, or vice versa. New projects could also be proposed but would not necessarily require that the LPPRP be revised.

## Acquisition and Development Projects

Land acquisition projects total approximately 680 acres in 11 projects. Approximately 180 acres would be for specific recreation projects. The three largest recreation project acquisitions would be 50 acres for a new athletic complex in the western portion of the County, 30 acres for a community park in Glen Burnie, and 30 acres for acquiring land adjacent to Jessup Park. This athletic complex is envisioned as having multi-use athletic facilities suitable for supporting recreational league play and tournaments.

Approximately 20 acres would be for acquisition and a feasibility study for an outdoor water park, and another 20 acres would be for acquisition of land for the Linthicum BWI Athletic Fields in Council District 1. Approximately 10 acres would be for land on which to develop multi-generational use recreation facilities in Deale and Maryland City. Five (5) acres will be required for a Countywide indoor sports facility and another 15 acres will be needed to expand the West County Community Park.

The remaining 500 acres would be for the multi-year Greenways, Parkland, and Open Space Acquisition program. This program potentially satisfies multiple objectives: addresses local or state Greenway objectives, protects sensitive natural resources, provides an addition to an existing park/trail and/or satisfies County park, recreation and preservation needs as identified in one or more of the following plans: the LPPRP, the Green Infrastructure Plan, Plan2040, and the Regional Plans.

In addition, the City of Annapolis has identified two areas for possible acquisitions: right-of-way acquisitions to complete the City of Annapolis trail network, and acquisition of the 5.17-acre site of the former Carr's Beach parcel to create a new park.

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<sup>5</sup> These time frames and groupings are required by the State's LPPRP guidelines.

## Facility Development Projects

Facility development projects are on land already owned or leased by the County, the Board of Education, or the City of Annapolis, or where no additional land acquisition would be required. The recommendations include 44 projects. Highlights include the following:

Development or completion of:

- A Community Center in Brooklyn Heights Park
- Replacement of the North County Recreation Center
- Replacement of the South County Recreation Center
- A recreational site at the former home of the Crownsville Hospital (Crownsville Memorial Park)
- West County Swim Center

Development of new recreation sites and amenities, South Shore Park, South County Area Park(s), Millersville Park, Northwest Area Parks (within the impact area of the Maryland Live Casino), Odenton Community Park, Solley Cove Park, Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy, and Stoney Creek Park. In particular, Stoney Creek Park could serve a broad portion of northern Anne Arundel County. While initial development could focus on athletic fields, the full facility could (depending on the outcome of the proposed master plan) provide water access and other amenities.

New development or additions/upgrades of athletic fields and related park facilities:

- Broadneck Park;
- Brooklyn Park;
- Central Avenue Park;
- Glen Burnie Area;
- Lake Shore Athletic Complex;
- North Arundel Aquatic Center;
- South County Athletic Fields; and
- Tanyard Springs Park
- South Shore Park

Passive recreation development, such as trails, water access, living shorelines, fishing, and/or parking for access:

- Bacon Ridge Natural Area
- Bay Head Park;
- Beverly Triton Nature Park;
- Carrs Wharf;
- South River Farm Park;

Continued phased development of County and City of Annapolis trail systems:

- Broadneck Peninsula Trail;
- South Shore Trail;
- WB&A Trail; and
- Feasibility studies for a Lake Shore Trail and a Mayo-Edgewater Trail.

Development of specialty projects and facilities:

- Lake Waterford dredging and shoreline rehabilitation

Countywide and programmatic projects:

- Construction of additional boat ramps;
- Feasibility and public support study for an off-road ATV and bike facility;
- Feasibility study for one outdoor track and field facility in the east, west, and south Council Districts;
- Feasibility studies for indoor recreational spaces, including tennis and track and field;
- Dog parks; and
- Parking area enhancements.

In addition to the County and City projects described above, the City of Annapolis has identified the need for multi-modal access improvements to 5th Street @ Spa Creek and bike access from Rte.450 to Navy Stadium.

In addition, the City has identified a need for a study to determine a site for an outdoor fitness court, a feasibility study for Paddle Park, a joint project with the National Park Service to study public water access and alternative mobility, and to build a Parks Division headquarters at Truxtun Park.

### *School Recreation Parks*

The Department of Recreation and Parks works closely with Anne Arundel County Public Schools including extensive joint use of facilities and grounds for community use, and before and after school care at 119 School Recreation Parks. New and renovated school facilities offer opportunities for increased recreational use by the public.

The 2021 Educational Facilities Master Plan for AACPS notes that total school enrollment in 2020 was approximately 83,000, a 3.8 percent increase since 2015 (just under the previous projection of 84,000). 2020 was the first year in a decade that enrollment went down compared to the previous year. Enrollment is projected to exceed 93,000 students by 2030.



Planned capital projects comprise new schools, replacements, modernizations, and additions. The school system's CIP includes:

- Construction of Old Mill West HS, feasibility/design of Old Mill HS, and design of a new West County HS;
- Design and construction of Old Mill MS South and feasibility/design of Old Mill MS North;
- Construction/renovation of Quarterfield ES, Hillsmere ES, and Rippling Woods ES, design of Northeast Area ES, and design/construction of West County ES;
- Feasibility/design for the Center for Applied Technology (CAT) North.

### *Boat Ramps*

The County's overall intent is to establish at least one boat ramp on each shore of each major river in the County. In 2016, the County constructed the first County-owned boat ramp at Fort Smallwood. Subsequently, the County added boat ramps at Discovery Village in Shady Side and at Solley Cove Park.

One or more boat ramps on the Severn, Magothy, and South Rivers are also needed, although potential sites have not been identified. In 2019, the County evaluated the potential to acquire existing ramp facilities or develop partnerships with private marinas and communities for enhanced public use. More than 250 owners of private ramps were contacted with no interest from any.

The Department of Recreation and Parks continues to seek additional waterfront locations with existing facilities with the potential to be developed for boat ramps.

### *Pickleball*

Pickleball is a sport that combines elements of tennis, badminton, and ping-pong. The sport is played both indoors and outdoors on a badminton-sized court with a slightly modified tennis net. The game is played with a paddle and a plastic ball with holes and accommodates both singles and doubles play, similar to tennis.

Pickleball is experiencing significant and rapid growth internationally and in communities across the United States. Demand for pickleball facilities in the County has also grown substantially. According to the Sport and Fitness Industry Association (SFIA), between 2019 and 2020, pickleball participation grew by a staggering 21.3 percent. The SFIA estimates that 4.2 million Americans play at least once a year.<sup>6</sup>

In an attempt to quickly provide pickleball facilities, the County has experimented with painting a secondary set of lines on a number of tennis courts, thereby accommodating both pickleball and tennis.

The City of Annapolis reconstructed the tennis courts at Truxtun Park to serve both Tennis and Pickleball players. The new complex includes ten courts dedicated to tennis, four courts dedicated to pickleball and two courts with blended lines to accommodate both sports. The City also conducts pickleball programs at the Pip Moyer Recreation Center.

The Department will continue to provide shared outdoor facilities; however, these games may each require dedicated facilities. One way to provide dedicated facilities would be the conversion of some County-managed tennis courts to pickleball courts. With this option, the courts may be side by side, however the court lines would be specific to each game, thereby avoiding competition for court time. A second option would be to add pickleball courts to existing community parks, providing as much separation as possible without imposing on adjacent residential neighbors. There has also been a desire expressed by the public for indoor pickleball courts.

The County plans to address the growing participation in this sport with multiple capital projects identified in the Plan.

### *Indoor Recreation*

The 2017 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan identified a need to provide indoor recreation spaces for sports courts and fields, track and field events, dance and exercise activities, and community gathering. Residents continue to voice the need for year-round recreation spaces.

A feasibility study for a large indoor recreation facility was initiated and, more recently, the Department has worked to develop tools to be used in the evaluation of large existing buildings (vacant retail and commercial spaces) for possible conversion to recreational uses. The Department envisions adding one or more facilities that would include tennis and pickleball courts, synthetic turf fields, rebound and active flooring for fitness and dance classes, and community meeting spaces. Smaller indoor centers with sports courts, traditional gymnasium amenities, and children's playgrounds are also being studied.

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6 *Pickleball: The racquet sport experiencing a pandemic boom; Jane O'Brien; <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-56324048>*

## Community Centers

Community Centers (indoor facilities that accommodate recreation and general-purpose activities) are an important part of the County's overall recreational system. Public schools provide some of these functions; however, the availability of schools for recreational and community functions is limited. To address this need, the County plans to replace the existing North County and South County Community Centers with new facilities that can support multiple community services.

## Facility Rehabilitation

The Department's limited resources often make it difficult to keep pace with needed repairs and maintenance activities at Anne Arundel County's extensive network of parks and recreation sites.

A major component of the CIP over the next fifteen plus years will be the rehabilitation and replacement of existing facilities. Many of the County's parks are 40-50 years old and have deteriorated beyond the point where routine maintenance is sufficient or cost-effective. The long-range CIP presented in Table III-17 includes several projects directly associated with the park rehabilitation effort, such as:

- **Park Renovations.** The Park Renovation project is funded annually in the Recreation and Parks capital budget. This project allows for the repair or replacement of park elements such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, fencing, courts, roads, pathways, bleachers, backstops, and building repairs.
- **Individual Park Rehabilitation Projects.** Specific rehabilitation projects such as those at Lake Waterford and Mayo Beach Park are budgeted as individual capital projects to allow for rehabilitation or replacement of major elements that are too comprehensive to be covered under the Park Renovation account, or under operating budget appropriations.
- **Facility Lighting.** The Facility Lighting project is also funded annually, similar to the Park Renovation Project. This project has typically been used to expand the number of lighted athletic fields; however, for the foreseeable future, it will primarily be used to replace lighting systems that are 30 to 40 years old. Total replacement is often the only way to achieve necessary lighting levels and meet wind load requirements. Replacing antiquated lighting systems will continue to be a major objective over the next ten years.
- **Facility irrigation.** Facility irrigation funds all for upgrading, replacing, or adding irrigation on fields to include master control systems.
- **ADA Compliance.** Upgrade County park facilities for conformance with the American Disabilities Act.
- **School Park Outdoor Recreation.** School-Outdoor Recreation Facilities capital fund allows for the rehabilitation or replacement of facilities shared by the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Board of Education. It can also be used to expand school-recreation areas. Projects are limited to outdoor improvements, and generally do not include the installation of lights. Projects are prioritized cooperatively with the Board of Education annually.
- **Trail Resurfacing.** This capital project provides funds to restore and upgrade trails. The B&A Trail is a specific priority, and is in need of major repairs and resurfacing, as well as rehabilitation and replacement of subsurface culverts. Many interior trails within County parks have similar age-related deterioration.
- **Other facility rehabilitation projects include:**
  - » Lake Waterford Park activity building renovation.
  - » Shoreline erosion control in County parks bordering the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries;
  - » Evaluation of opportunities to convert underused outdoor court facilities to skate parks or other uses, based on demand.
  - » Renovate or replace existing tennis or basketball courts to accommodate pickleball, when available. Consider the conversion of tennis courts where both sports can be accommodated at the same park, or if two parks in close proximity have tennis courts consider converting one site to pickle ball.
  - » Continued investment in City of Annapolis playing fields.

The City of Annapolis also has several facility rehabilitation projects including:

- Restorations at Hawkins Cove and Truxtun Park
- Renovation at Pip Moyer Recreation Center, Truxtun Park, Water Works Park, and Weems-Whalen Field
- Re-development of Robert Eades Park
- Waterway improvements at Cheston Avenue, Four Street End Locations, 6th Street, and
- Improved access to Well's Cove public waterfront

## Relationship of Priorities to Demand, Proximity, and Equity Needs

The land acquisition, facility development and facility rehabilitation projects identified in Table III–17 and in the priorities described above each respond to needs identified either by the demand, proximity, or equity analyses.

### *Acquisition & Conservation*

The acquisition program totals approximately 680 acres. Another 180 are required for specific recreation projects. The remaining 500 acres address other open space and green infrastructure objectives in the County. Land acquisitions are proposed primarily in Council Districts 1, 2, 4 and 7.

### *Development*

The recommended development program responds to the recreation needs identified in the needs analysis, and specifically respond to the needs of each Council District.

Primary countywide development projects fall into the following categories:

- Trails: New, updated, and maintained walking and biking trails and expanding countywide trail system.
- Multi-purpose fields
- Water access: Outdoor and indoor swimming as well as beach access for swimming.
- Playgrounds
- Tennis/Pickleball courts
- Dog parks
- Other community and recreational facilities

### Trails

Demand for trails is addressed in the program by the continued development of the County's trail system, including the Broadneck Peninsula Trail, South Shore Trail, and the WB&A Trail. Each of the trails address a demand need. The Mayo-Edgewater Trail Study also addresses a proximity need.

### Water Access and Swimming

Anne Arundel has more than 500 miles of waterfront on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Many people seek to live in Anne Arundel County because of its vast waterfront and are then surprised to find the extent to which this public resource has become privatized and unavailable to the majority of the public. In recent years, County government has begun to address this inadequacy. Public waterfront land has been inventoried. Access policies have been changed and capital projects undertaken to create or improve access. New communication tools, such as ParkFinder have been developed to guide the public to access points. The County continues to pursue previous recommendations for achieving its water access goals which include:

- Boat access, such as boat ramps, soft (cartop) launches, and campsites with water access supporting motorized and non-motorized craft;
- Swimming access;
- Fishing access, such as piers, bank fishing facilities, and parking areas adjacent to access areas; and
- Access to waterfront areas for viewing the body of water, wildlife, and shoreline areas, such as nature trails, hiking and biking trails, waterfront trails, boardwalks, and observation decks.

The long-range CIP (Table III–17) includes a line item to site and develop additional boat ramps. This addresses a demand and proximity need. It also includes the West County Swim Center and an Indoor Swim Center in District 7. The West County Swim Center addresses demand, equity, and proximity needs, and the Indoor Swim Center addresses demand and proximity needs. It also includes the West County Swim Center and an Indoor Swim Center in District 7 to help meet demand for indoor swimming. Renovation of the Truxtun Park outdoor pool in the City of Annapolis has helped to meet swimming demand. Some of the demand for indoor swimming will continue to be met at colleges, private schools, and at other locations such as Fort Meade. These facilities are not included in the recreation inventory, Appendix A.



## Playgrounds

In addition to the general demand identified for playgrounds in the needs analysis, and addressed by several projects, a playground at South Shore Park in Crownsville will also satisfy a proximity need in that area. Planned projects also include adding accessible equipment and other ADA modifications to numerous playgrounds.

## Multi-purpose fields

The demand for multi-purpose fields will be partially met through a combination of community park development and new fields as well as the facility lighting, turf, and irrigation/drainage projects. Lighting allows fields to be used at night, and irrigation and drainage projects increase supply and create better playing surfaces. All of the athletic field projects respond to a general demand identified in the needs analysis. In addition, the Millersville Park Development, Central Avenue Park, and South County Athletic Fields projects also respond to a proximity need. The Tanyard Springs project and the Turf Fields in Glen Burnie respond to demand, proximity, and equity needs. The Peninsula Park Expansion project and the Brooklyn Park Complex project both responds to demand and equity needs.

## Tennis and Pickleball Courts

Demand for more pickleball courts has been met primarily by over-striping existing tennis courts with markings for pickleball play. Future resurfacing projects will continue to use this dual-sport court approach and will also address proximity needs.

## Dog Parks & Pavilions

Dog parks are proposed at existing and new parks based on demand and proximity. The largest demand is in Council District 1.

Picnic pavilions are relatively low-cost facilities and are provided at new and rehabilitated parks as opportunities arise. Generally, Picnic pavilions satisfy a demand need.

## Other Community and Recreational Facilities

There are several other projects that don't fall into the above categories but also respond to a demand, proximity, or equity need. Projects such as Mayo Glebe Heights Park and the Odenton Community Park each responds to a demand and proximity need. The Solley Cove Park project for new community recreation facilities and the Northwest Area Parks project for new recreation facilities satisfy demand, equity, and proximity need. The Brooklyn Heights Community Center in Council District 1 responds to an equity need.

## **Funding**

The overall program has an estimated cost of approximately \$562 million. Of this total, approximately \$105 million would be for acquisition and associated facility development, \$332 million for facility development projects, and \$124 million for rehabilitation projects. The cost estimates are in 2021 dollars, based on knowledge of recent land acquisitions, real estate values in different parts of the County, and recent facility development and rehabilitation costs. Funding necessary to accomplish the project priorities will be leveraged to the maximum extent possible, using a combination of available revenue sources: general and capital County and City of Annapolis funds, general obligation bonds, Program Open Space, and other State and Federal programs, grants, and donations.

Over the 15-year period to 2036, the total program cost averages \$37.4 million per year. By comparison, the approved FY22 County Recreation and Parks capital budget is \$46.68 million.

It should also be noted that the actual program costs in future capital budgets and CIPs may be lower than estimated in Table III–17. The intent of Table III–17 is to list all the desired projects in one place for use in developing future annual capital budget and CIPs. Table III–17 therefore contains more projects than will likely be completed through 2036. Over time, as priorities change, projects may move from the short range to the medium or long range or vice versa.

# City of Annapolis Priorities

This section of the LPPRP describes the City of Annapolis' park and recreation priorities to address its land acquisition, facility development, and facility rehabilitation needs through 2027. The City has a very aggressive capital improvement program which will be dependent upon funding authorized in future annual budgets. Based on program review by the public, City officials, and the City Council, and the availability of funds, some projects may be implemented beyond 2027 which is the five-year short-range capital improvement program (FY23 through FY27). Below are the priority projects within two categories: 1.) Land Acquisition and Facility Development Projects, 2.) Facility Development and Facility Rehabilitation Projects.

## Land Acquisition and Facility Development Projects

### *Bikeways & Trail Connections*

The City bikeway and trail program is currently focusing on the extension of Poplar Trail to complete the West-East Express Trail System which will better connect Downtown Annapolis to the Parole Town Center and Waterworks Park and become the spine of the City's bikeways network. In addition to the West-East Express, a hiker-biker path and bike lane from Route 450 to the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium was recently funded in the City's capital budget and is a critical missing link between the B&A Trail and the City of Annapolis. Additional bikeway and trail enhancements will be identified in the Annapolis Ahead 2040 Comprehensive Plan as well as the future City of Annapolis Parks and Pathways Master Plan.

### *Carrs Beach Park*

Acquire 5.17 acres, a portion of the former Carrs Beach, to create a park and celebrate the African American entrepreneurs who provided beach access and world class entertainment for African American vacationers during the pre-1950 Jim Crow era. The City is pursuing funding assistance from the State, County, other public agencies, and various environmental and cultural non-profit groups to complete this important land purchase.

### *Street-End Parks*

Although the majority of the City's existing street-end parks are owned by the City of Annapolis, there are some which are not. In the coming years, to expand and preserve public water access, the City will explore opportunities to either acquire

or place into conservation easement as many of these waterfront sites as possible not currently in public ownership.

## Facility Development and Facility Rehabilitation Projects

Truxtun Park, the City's premier park, will continue to see major improvements within the five-year Capital Improvement Program. In addition to the recently constructed Truxtun Park swim complex and tennis and pickleball courts, the City is planning to implement the following additional improvements:

- A new Parks Division headquarters building
- A new Parks Division garage and storage facility
- Renovations to the Spa Creek Trail
- Other trail restoration and renovations in accordance with the Truxtun Park Trail Repair Plan
- Skate park renovations for expanded opportunities, upgraded safety, and performance
- Parking improvements for the boat ramp area that will include lighting, striping, and directional signage

The Pip Moyer Recreation Center which is located in Truxtun Park will also benefit from capital upgrades:

- Renovation of the outdoor basketball courts
- Incremental replacement of fitness equipment on an annual basis

The City is home to many waterfront and "street-end" parks which provide various water access opportunities along the tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. As part of the City's Facility Rehabilitation efforts, the following parks will receive upgrades contingent upon funding authorized by the Mayor and City Council:

- 6th Street Park floating dock and ADA ramp
- Wells Cove waterfront access pathway
- Hawkins Cove living shoreline, pier renovations, site furnishings, and trail construction
- Robert H. Eades Park – reconstruction to include grading, water access pathway, shoreline stabilization, site furnishings, and a memorial to the late community activist Robert H. Eades.
- Cheston Avenue Park – replace bulkhead, add floating docks, and wetland enhancements
- Floating docks will be added at the end of Thompson Street, Conduit Street, Third Street and Amos Garrett Boulevard

- 5th Street @ Spa Creek Multi-Modal Hub – the vision for this currently underinvested and underutilized site is to become a ferry launch and micro mobility transit station that will provide access from Eastport to Downtown Annapolis. The concept is being further refined in the Public Water Access Plan currently in development.
- Other street-end locations will receive improvements based on the Public Water Access Plan currently in development

Facility development efforts at other City parks include the following:

- Outdoor Fitness Facility – Install a state-of-the-art outdoor fitness facility, at a site to be determined, with funding through the “National Fitness Campaign” program.
- Weems Whalen Field Renovations
- Adaptive Boating Center - a unique boating facility being developed on Back Creek in association with the nonprofit organization Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (C.R.A.B.). Guided by C.R.A.B.’s mission to introduce sailing to anyone with a disability, wounded veterans, and youth from underserved communities, the facility will significantly expand the region’s ability to meet the goal of equitable water access for all. As of the adoption of this Plan, the project is wrapping up permitting to commence site development

### *Planning Studies for Future Facilities*

The City will also conduct the following planning studies for potential new projects:

- The City has begun the planning process to renovate the Historic Reservoir Operations Building at the Annapolis Waterworks Park into an environmental education center to include programs promoting ecology, sustainability, and renewable energy. The City will open discussions with the County and other potential contributors in an effort to make this a reality.
- Update the 2004 Parks and Pathways Master Plan
- A feasibility study for a paddle park to be located on College Creek
- Public Water Access Plan in cooperation with the National Park Service
- College Creek Master Plan – this study will be developed in tandem with the Public Water Access Plan and the update to the Parks and Pathways Master Plan

Additional detail on the City’s capital improvement projects can be found in Table III–17 of the plan. Information on existing City of Annapolis parks, including acreage and facilities can be found in Appendix A.

## **2022 Open Space and Parks and Recreational Land Goals**

Anne Arundel County has largely been successful in meeting goals established in the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan for the acquisition of recreation and open space lands. Recreation and Parks has processes and resources in place to enable the Department to identify candidate properties and to systematically evaluate those properties. A Management Specialist in DRP is dedicated to these real estate and property efforts and evaluations. DRP is actively working to pursue properties which directly support the demands identified within this LPPRP.

With a number of capital projects identified in Table III–17 involving the construction of buildings for indoor recreational uses such as swim centers and tennis centers, Recreation and Parks is considering acquiring existing buildings and not just undeveloped land. DRP is developing tools which will permit the assessment and evaluation of existing vacant commercial buildings, with the intent of re-purposing large volume buildings for use.

Another one of the County’s strategies for obtaining properties responsive to those demand, proximity and equity needs identified is to look beyond simple fee purchases of land and/or buildings. In meeting the needs identified in the 2017 LPPRP the County was able to re-use or re-purpose unused or other County-owned properties. For example, DRP expects to make use of a portion of Provinces Park as the location for a new indoor swim center. The Department is initiating a feasibility study of multiple unused park sites and of under-utilized park lands to determine if there is acreage already in the County’s inventory, which may be used for locations of courts, fields, and other needed recreation amenities.



Table III–16: **Acreage Goals 2022**

Type and Specific Location	Acreage Needed	Plan for Meeting Need
Community Park Glen Burnie area	30 acres	In late-2021, the County acquired 14.9-acre Tanyard Springs school/park site in Glen Burnie to partially fulfill this need. DRP is actively searching for additional properties.
Expansion of Jessup Park	30 acres	No land adjoining Jessup Park is available. Properties adjacent to Jessup Dorsey Park are being evaluated.
Indoor Tennis Center Location TBD	20 acres	Feasibility of locating indoor tennis center within existing parks is being evaluated.
Multipurpose athletic fields Linthicum/BWI area	20 acres	DRP will continue to actively search for properties.
Indoor Sports Facility location TBD	5 acres	In late-2021, DRP initiated an architectural and engineering effort to develop criteria for evaluating existing vacant retail and commercial buildings for re-use as an indoor sport facility. DRP will continue to actively search for other properties.
Recreation Centers Deale and Maryland City	10 acres	In the Deale area, the County is evaluating the feasibility of expanding to the Deale AACPL branch library (adjacent to the new Deale Community Park presently being developed) to provide indoor program space. In the west county area, the County is in the process of acquiring 36.4 acres that will help to satisfy this need. DRP will continue to actively search for other properties in the Laurel/ Maryland City area.
Water Park location TBD	20 acres	Conduct feasibility study first to determine location and size required before starting search for suitable properties.
Multipurpose athletic fields/complex location TBD - Council Districts 1/2/4	50 acres	In January 2022, the County initiated a feasibility study of 21 existing park and school recreation sites in this area to identify locations for one or more new multipurpose fields. In March 2022, the County announced plans to acquire 29.8 acres for an expansion of Severn Danza Park, which will also address this need.
Community Park Expansion Burgoon parcel	15 acres	Continue negotiations with property owners for purchase.
<b>Sub-total - Recreation Land Goal</b>	<b>680 acres</b>	
Greenways, Parkland and Open Space Countywide	500 acres	The County will continue to seek to acquire additional park and open space land throughout the County. The need for additional park sites and green spaces, identified in the Green Infrastructure Plan and the LPPRP are greatest in Council Districts 1, 2 and 4 and acquisition of properties in those areas will be given higher priority for funding. DRP is also undertaking the evaluation of multiple existing County-owned properties, totaling more than 120 acres, for use as recreation and/or open space lands.
<b>Sub-total - Greenways, Parkland and Open Space Goal</b>	<b>500 acres</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,180 acres</b>	

Table III–17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS					
Project	Need Addressed	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
LAND ACQUISITION and DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS					
Glen Burnie Community Park	Demand	2	Acquire land, prepare a master plan, design and construct a community park to include athletic fields, a dog park, playground and other recreation amenities based on a future master plan.	\$4,800	
Greenways, Parkland and Open Space	Demand	Countywide	Multi-year effort to acquire land that addresses local or state Greenway objectives, protects sensitive natural resources, provides an addition to an existing park/trail and/or satisfies County park, recreation and preservation needs as identified in the LPPRP, Green Infrastructure Plan, Plan 2040 and/or Regional Plans.	\$44,976	
Jessup Elementary School	Demand	1	Evaluate passive recreation opportunities in forested area adjacent to the school to include hiking trails; develop facilities if feasible.	\$100	
Jessup Park Expansion	Demand	1	Acquire land adjacent to Jessup Park, if feasible, and expand facilities to meet the public need. If acquisition of land is not feasible, pursue other property in the Jessup area.	\$4,200	
Indoor Tennis Center	Demand	Countywide	Construct an indoor-outdoor tennis facility to serve the tennis community. This need was identified in the 2017 LPPRP however the anticipated location is no longer available.	\$7,000	
Linthicum BWI Athletic Fields	Demand & Proximity	1	Acquire and develop a new site or develop existing sites for additional athletic fields.	\$4,100	
Indoor Sports Facility	Demand	Countywide	Acquire site acquire land and construct or acquire an existing property for an indoor sports facility and related parking.	\$7,000	
Recreation Centers	Demand	4,7	Acquire land for the development of a multi generational use recreational facility in Deale and Maryland City areas.	\$11,200	
Water Park	Demand	Countywide	Feasibility study, land acquisition, design and construction of an outdoor water park.	\$11,500	
West Area Athletic Complex	Demand & Proximity	1,2,4	Acquire, design and construct an athletic complex in the western portion of the County.	\$7,500	
West Area Community Park Expansion	Proximity	1	Acquire land adjacent to West Area Community Park (former Burgoon property), or pursue other nearby acreage.	\$3,200	
Acquisition Cost				\$61,375	
Facility Development Cost				\$44,200	
Sub Total				\$105,576	

	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	N	30	\$1,800	\$3,000							
	P	500	\$14,992			\$14,992			\$14,992		
	N			\$100							
	N	30	\$1,200				\$3,000				
	Y			\$7,000							
	N	20	\$1,600				\$2,500				
	N	5	\$2,000				\$5,000				
	N	10	\$1,600	\$4,000		\$1,600	\$4,000				
	N	20	\$1,400	\$100			\$10,000				
	N	50	\$4,000				\$3,500				
	N	15	\$1,200							\$2,000	
			\$29,792			\$16,592			\$14,992		
				\$14,200			\$28,000			\$2,000	
		680	\$29,792	\$14,200		\$16,592	\$28,000		\$14,992	\$2,000	



Table III–17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS					
Project	Need Addressed	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS					
Bacon Ridge Natural Area Access Improvements	Demand	4	Design and construct parking facilities and trail connections within the Bacon Ridge Natural Area.	\$1,000	
Bay Head Park Expanded Parking	Demand	5	Provide a secondary entrance and additional parking with storm water management upgrades.	\$800	
Beverly Triton Nature Park	Demand	7	Provide parking and passive recreation opportunities and water access. Construct Phase Two shoreline improvements.	\$4,684	
Boat Ramp Development	Demand & Proximity	Countywide	Design and construct boat ramps within existing County parks or acquire land as needed using the Greenway and Parkland acquisition project. Ramps are needed on the Severn, South and Magothy Rivers.	\$9,000	
Broadneck Park Upgrades	Demand	5	Add field lights, irrigation and remove deteriorated structure.	\$450	
Broadneck Peninsula Trail - MD 2 Bridge	Demand	5	Design and construct a bridge over Ritchie Hwy to connect the Broadneck Peninsula and B & A Trails.	\$13,200	
Brooklyn Heights Community Center	Equity	1	Design and construct a multi-generational community center in Brooklyn Heights Park.	\$15,195	
Brooklyn Park Complex	Demand & Equity	1	Design and construct athletic facilities at Brooklyn Park Middle School	\$6,954	
Carrs Wharf Parking Facilities	Demand	7	Design and construct parking facilities at Carrs Wharf.	\$1,400	
Central Avenue Park	Demand & Proximity	7	Design and construct athletic fields, parking and other community recreation facilities.	\$3,000	
Community Center, North	Demand	1,2,3,4	Design and construct the replacement of the North County Recreation Center at the current site, or a new location to include facilities for recreation, sports, fitness, senior programs, arts and crafts, health, community meetings and public safety. Additional land if needed will be acquired under the Greenways, Parkland, and Open Space project.	\$10,500	
Community Center, South	Demand	5,6,7	Design and construct the replacement of the South County Recreation Center at the current site, or a new location to include facilities for recreation, sports, fitness, senior programs, arts and crafts, health, community meetings and public safety. Additional land if needed will be acquired under the Greenways, Parkland, and Open Space project.	\$10,500	
South Shore Park	Demand & Proximity	4	Design and construct indoor/ outdoor athletic fields, playground and parking.	\$3,000	
Crownsville Hospital Site	Demand	4	Design and construct a recreational site that would include active and passive recreation.	\$20,000	
Dairy Farm Park	Demand	4	Amend the master plan, design and construct a regional park.	\$21,200	
Dog Parks	Demand & Proximity	Countywide	Design and construct dog parks in various locations.	\$1,800	
Fort Smallwood / Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Park	Demand	3	Design and construct phases II and III in accordance with the Master Plan.	\$3,725	
Indoor Swim Center, South	Demand & Proximity	7	Design and construct an indoor swim center to include lap lanes, recreational swim area, dive wells, and slides. Acquire land if needed.	\$15,500	
Lake Shore Athletic Complex	Demand	3	Design and construct Phase II to include a dog park, multi-purpose field, a concession/restroom building, and equipment storage building.	\$3,000	

	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	N			\$1,000							
	N						\$800				
	Y			\$4,684							
	P			\$3,000			\$3,000			\$3,000	
	N			\$450							
	N									\$13,200	
	Y			\$15,195							
	Y			\$6,954							
	Y			\$1,400							
	N									\$3,000	
	N						\$10,500				
	N						\$10,500				
	N			\$3,000							
	N			\$5,000			\$15,000				
	P			\$5,873			\$5,317			\$10,010	
	N			\$600			\$600			\$600	
	P			\$3,725							
	N	10	\$500	\$15,000							
	N									\$3,000	

Table III-17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS					
Project	Need Addressed	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
Lake Shore Trail Study	Demand	3	Conduct a feasibility study for a trail or bike lane to connect north and south Lake Shore.	\$100	
Lake Waterford Dredging and Shoreline Rehabilitation	Demand	3	Perform dredging and shoreline rehabilitation.	\$500	
Mayo - Edgewater Trail Study	Demand & Proximity	7	Conduct a feasibility study for providing a trail or bikeway from Mayo to Edgewater.	\$100	
Mayo - Glebe Heights WRF Parks	Demand & Proximity	7	Design and construct recreation facilities in accordance with the Mayo Peninsula and park master plans.	\$5,956	
Millersville Park Development	Demand & Proximity	4	To develop a sports complex with 4 to 6 multipurpose fields with lighting, irrigation, concession/comfort station, parking and related amenities at the 33-acre Millersville site.	\$8,000	
Northwest Area Parks	Demand/Equity/ Proximity	1	Improvements to existing parks and/or development of new parks and recreation facilities as determined by the Local Development Council using Video Lottery Terminal revenues.	\$7,500	
North Arundel Aquatic Center Improvements	Demand	2	Improvements to the North Arundel Swim Center to include an outdoor splash pad.	\$3,397	
Odenton Library Site Community Park	Demand & Proximity	4	Design and construct a community park adjacent to the Odenton Library.	\$4,535	
Off Road ATV and Bike Facility	Demand	Countywide	Conduct a feasibility study and gauge public support for an off road ATV and bike facility.	\$100	
Outdoor Track and Field Facilities	Demand	Countywide	Conduct a feasibility study, design and construct track and field facilities in the east, west and south areas of the County. Consider existing and future park sites.	\$1,600	
Parking Area Expansion	Demand	Countywide	Remedy parking deficiencies within existing parks. Construct additional parking if feasible. Acquire adjacent property if needed using the Greenway Parkland and Open Space Capital Project. If above options are not feasible, relocate recreation facilities to other sites to allow for expanded parking. Acquire land at other locations to accommodate the relocation of facilities.	\$6,000	
Preserve at Eisenhower Golf Course	Demand	Countywide	Design and construct a clubhouse at the newly renovated golf course.	\$9,945	
Recreation and Parks Project Planning	N/a	Countywide	Preliminary planning, engineering and cost estimates for future capital projects.	\$4,500	
Rockhold Creek Park Equestrian Facilities	Demand	7	Construct horse trailer parking, a restroom building and parking.	\$2,254	
Solley Cove Park	Demand/Equity/ Proximity	3	Master plan, design & construct community recreation facilities.	\$5,750	
South Shore Trail	Demand	4,6	Right of way acquisition, design and construction of the South Shore Trails phases two through four plus the MD 3 pedestrian bridge.	\$32,642	
South River Farm Park	Demand	7	Design and construct park facilities as recommended by the Mayo advisory committee master plan.	\$7,638	
Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy	Demand	5	Master plan, design and construct community recreation facilities.	\$3,450	
South County Athletic Fields	Demand & Proximity	7	Develop athletic fields in the Edgewater or surrounding area. Possible locations could include Central Ave Park or Riva Area Park.	\$8,000	
Stoney Creek Park	Demand	3	Master plan, design & construct a community park to include athletic fields, cartop boat launch, trails, playground, picnic facilities and other park amenities.	\$5,750	



	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	N			\$100							
	N			\$500							
	N			\$100							
	N						\$5,956				
	P			\$8,000							
	P			\$2,500			\$2,500			\$2,500	
	Y			\$3,397							
	Y			\$4,535							
	N			\$100							
	N			\$600			\$500			\$500	
	N			\$2,000			\$2,000			\$2,000	
	P			\$9,945							
	P			\$1,500			\$1,500			\$1,500	
	N			\$2,254							
	N						\$750			\$5,000	
	Y			\$18,822						\$13,820	
	N						\$3,819			\$3,819	
	Y						\$450			\$3,000	
	N						\$8,000				
	N						\$750			\$5,000	

Table III-17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS					
Project	Need Addressed	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
Tanyard Springs	Demand/Equity/ Proximity	3	Design and construct athletic fields in the newly acquired Tanyard Springs property.	\$4,750	
Turf Fields- Glen Burnie	Demand/Equity/ Proximity	2	Design and construct two Bermuda turf fields in the Glen Burnie area.	\$8,000	
West County Swim Center	Demand/Equity/ Proximity	1,4,2	Design and construct an indoor aquatic center for recreational and competitive swimming.	\$34,806	
				Acquisition Cost	\$500
				Facility Development Cost	\$309,681
				Sub Total	\$310,181
FACILITY REHABILITATION PROJECTS					
ADA Compliance Implementation	Equity	Countywide	Upgrade County park facilities for access per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).	\$5,250	
Facility Irrigation	Demand	Countywide	Upgrade, replace or add irrigation on athletic fields, including master control systems.	\$3,750	
Facility Lighting	Demand	Countywide	Repair, upgrade or replace existing field and court lighting systems and light additional fields and courts where needed.	\$11,700	
Lake Waterford Park Building Renovation	Demand & Equity	3	Renovate existing building to better accommodate programming and operational needs, including additional facilities for special needs populations.	\$2,000	
Mayo Beach Park Repairs	Demand	7	Design and construct repairs to existing facilities and infrastructure including ADA upgrades.	\$8,447	
Park Renovations	Demand	Countywide	Repair, improve, reconstruct and redevelop existing County parks and school recreation areas.	\$51,675	
Peninsula Park Expansion	Demand & Equity	6	Design and construct additional athletic fields, pathways, parking and lighting.	\$5,292	
Pickle ball Courts	Demand & Proximity	Countywide	Renovate or replace existing basketball and tennis courts to accommodate pickleball or develop new courts. Identify at least one site to serve as a tournament venue with at least eight (8) courts. Consider the conversion of tennis courts.	\$1,200	
Quiet Waters Park Rehabilitation	Demand	6	Rehabilitation and improvements per the 2021 Conditions Assessment and ADA report. Design and construct improvements to Retreat property.	\$11,025	
School- Outdoor Recreation Facilities	Demand	Countywide	Design and construct playing fields, upgrade existing fields, rehabilitate tennis, basketball courts and other recreation amenities to accommodate after-school activities on school properties or on adjacent county-owned land.	\$4,905	
Shoreline Erosion Control	Demand	Countywide	Address shoreline erosion problems in County parks.	\$14,415	
Skate Park Facilities	Demand & Proximity	Countywide	Evaluate opportunities to convert unused court facilities to skate parks. Consider private funding if available. Resurface courts and install equipment.	\$300	
Trail Resurfacing	Demand	Countywide	Resurface trails throughout the County to include paved trails in County parks.	\$4,500	
				Facility Rehabilitation Cost Sub Total	\$124,459
Grand Total				\$540,216	

	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	N			\$4,750							
	N			\$8,000							
	Y			\$34,806							
			\$500								
				\$167,790			\$71,942			\$69,949	
		10	\$500	\$167,790			\$71,942			\$69,949	
	P				\$1,750			\$1,750			\$1,750
	P				\$1,250			\$1,250			\$1,250
	P				\$3,900			\$3,900			\$3,900
	N				\$2,000						
	Y				\$8447						
	P				\$17,225			\$17,225			\$17,225
	Y				\$5,292						
	N				\$400			\$400			\$400
	Y				\$11,025						
	P				\$1,635			\$1,635			\$1,635
	P				\$4,805			\$4,805			\$4,805
	N				\$100			\$100			\$100
	P				\$1,500			\$1,500			\$1,500
					\$59,329			\$32,565			\$32,565
		690	\$30,292	\$181,990	\$59,329	\$16,592	\$99,942	\$32,565	\$14,992	\$71,949	\$32,565



Table III-17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

CITY OF ANNAPOLIS PROJECTS				
Project	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
LAND ACQUISITION and DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS				
Bikeways and Trail Connections	City of Annapolis	Update the 2011 Bike Master Plan and perform Right of way acquisition, design and construction of trail connections to complete the City of Annapolis trail network. The current focus is the extension of Poplar Trail to complete the West East Express trail system, as well as other segments to connect to existing facilities.	\$3,000	
Carrs Beach Park	City of Annapolis	Acquire the 5.17 acre former Carr's Beach parcel at 7131 Bembe Beach Road and create a park to recognize and celebrate the African American entrepreneurs who provided beach access and world class entertainment for African-American vacationers during the pre 1950 Jim Crow era.	\$8,000	
Sub Total			\$11,000	
FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS				
5th Street @ Spa Creek Multi-Modal Hub	City of Annapolis	Park improvements to include a ferry launch and micromobility transit station to provide access from Eastport to downtown Annapolis.	\$300	
Adaptive Boating Center (Bembe Beach Marina site)	City of Annapolis	Development of an accessible boating center in association with the Chesapeake Regional Accessible Boating organization.	\$2,800	
General Street End Park Access Improvements	City of Annapolis	Improvements to street end parks city-wide.	\$750	
Hiker-Biker Path RT 450 to Navy Stadium	City of Annapolis	Install bike paths and bike lanes from Rte. 450 to the Navy Stadium.	\$105	
Outdoor Fitness Court	City of Annapolis	Conduct a study to determine a site. Design and construct an outdoor fitness court.	\$200	
Paddle Park	City of Annapolis	Feasibility study for a proposed community boating center to be located on College Creek on land currently owned by the State of Maryland and NSA-Annapolis.	\$60	
Parks and Pathways Master Plan	City of Annapolis	Update the 2004 citywide Parks and Pathways Master Plan. The plan will include a condition assessment of parks, trails and open space. It will provide updated level of service standards with a focus on equity. The plan will identify new programs, park enhancements, and recommendations for revenue generation and elevated maintenance standards.	\$200	
Public Water Access Plan	City of Annapolis	A joint project with the National Park Service to study the enhancement of water access and alternative mobility options within the City of Annapolis.	\$150	
Parks Division Headquarters at Truxtun Park	City of Annapolis	Install pre-engineered buildings at Truxtun Park to serve as the Parks Division Headquarters including a maintenance building to store equipment, tools, salt and landscape materials.	\$300	
Sub Total			\$4,865	
FACILITY REHABILITATION PROJECTS				
Hawkins Cove Restoration	City of Annapolis	Replace bulkhead, install a living shoreline, repair/replace pier, landscaping, site furnishings, trail improvements and channel dredging.	\$50	
Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center Outdoor Basketball Courts	City of Annapolis	Renovate the outdoor basketball courts to include court resurfacing, backboard and rim replacements and scoreboard replacement.	\$450	
Roger "Pip" Moyer Recreation Center Fitness Equipment	City of Annapolis	Provide funding annually to replace fitness equipment in the Roger " Pip" Moyer Rec Center to address public need.	\$263	
Robert Eades Park Reconstruction	City of Annapolis	Re-develop Robert Eades Park to include grading, a water access pathway, landscaping, shoreline stabilization, site furnishings and lighting. This effort will include the development of a buffer management strategy and implementation.	Prior Funding	

	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	P			\$3,000							
	P	5.17	\$5,000	\$3,000							
		5.17	\$5,000	\$6,000							
				\$300							
	P			\$2,800							
				\$750							
	Y			\$105							
	N			\$200							
	N			\$60							
	N			\$200							
	N			\$150							
	N			\$300							
				\$4,865							
	Y				\$50						
	N				\$450						
	Y				\$263						
	Y										

Table III–17: *Land Acquisition, Development, and Rehabilitation Recommendations*

CITY OF ANNAPOLIS PROJECTS				
Project	Council District or City of Annapolis	Description of Recommendations	Estimated Total Cost (\$1,000's)	
Truxtun Park Spa Creek Trail Renovations	City of Annapolis	Provide materials for volunteers to renovate the Spa Creek section of the Truxtun Park trail system.	\$25	
Truxtun Park Skateboard Facility	City of Annapolis	Renovate the skateboard facility at Truxtun Park to improve safety and performance.	\$175	
Truxtun Park Trail Repair Plan	City of Annapolis	Prepare phase two of the Truxtun Park Trail Repair Plan.	\$75	
Truxtun Park Trail Restoration	City of Annapolis	Implement the recommendations of the Truxtun Park Trail Repair Plan prepared by the City and the Trail Conservancy. Trail repairs will be funded as a multi-year effort.	\$500	
Waterway Improvements at Cheston Avenue	City of Annapolis	Replace bulkhead, add floating docks and wetland enhancements.	Prior Funding	
Waterway Improvements at Four Street End Locations	City of Annapolis	Add floating docks at the end of Thompson Street, Conduit Street, Third Street and Amos Garrett Blvd, and remove the old pier at Thompson Street.	Prior Funding	
Waterway Improvements at 6th Street	City of Annapolis	Channel Dredging, floating dock and ADA ramp to floating dock.	Prior Funding	
Water Works Park Environmental Education Center	City of Annapolis	Renovate the Historic Reservoir Operations Building at Water Works Park for the purposes of environmental education to include programs promoting renewable energy. The City will pursue funding partners.	\$600	
Weems-Whalen Field Renovations	City of Annapolis	Remove deposited ash material and replace with new soil. Re-grade, add top soil, seed or sod.	\$473	
Wells Cove Public Waterfront Access	City of Annapolis	Improvements to include the construction of a pathway from Boucher Avenue to the waterfront at Wells Cove. The project is dependent upon the successful negotiation of an access easement with an adjacent property owner.	\$53	
Sub Total			\$2,664	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$18,529</b>	



	In Current County or City CIP (Y=yes, N=no, P-partial)	Acres to be Acquired	Estimated Short-Range (2023-2027) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Mid-Range (2028-2032) Cost (\$1,000s)			Estimated Long-Range (2033-2037 and beyond) Cost (\$1,000)		
			Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab	Acquisition	Capital Development	Rehab
	N				\$25						
	N				\$175						
	N				\$75						
	N				\$500						
	Y										
	Y										
	Y										
	N				\$600						
	Y				\$473						
	N				\$53						
					\$2,664						
		5.17	\$5,000	\$10,865	\$2,664	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	



Kinder Farm  
Source: Matthew Beziat on Flickr

# Chapter IV: Agricultural Land Preservation

## Introduction

Agricultural preservation in Anne Arundel County serves a dual role of providing a direct economic benefit as well as preserving the quality of life reflected in a rural environment. The County's agricultural preservation program focuses on maintaining agriculture as a viable and sustainable economic sector and on preserving agriculture as a key element of South County's rural character (south of US 50/301). The program also recognizes the environmental benefits of well-maintained agricultural lands, especially improved water quality through reduced sediment and nutrient discharges.

This chapter evaluates Anne Arundel County's goals, policies, and implementation strategies to achieve State and County goals for preserving agricultural land.

Benefiting from productive land and an excellent location in proximity to navigable rivers and creeks of the Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River, Anne Arundel County has been an agricultural community for over 350 years. Agriculture continues to be an important component of the local economy, a key element of the landscape, and a defining aspect of Anne Arundel County life especially in South County.

In the 17th and 18th centuries, Anne Arundel County was a strong agricultural region with tobacco as its chief crop. Reliance on tobacco as the major cash crop lessened throughout the County by the late 19th century, as socioeconomic changes brought on by the Civil War forced

local farmers to diversify their crops. Farmers in the southern portion of the county shifted to crops such as corn, wheat, hay, and fruit, although tobacco remained important. Farmers in the northern portion of the County found their location close to Baltimore and prevalent sandy soils ideal for truck farming. Anne Arundel County peas, beans, strawberries, and cantaloupes became famous throughout the eastern seaboard. Canning and fertilizer plants opened in northern Anne Arundel County in support of these crops.

Rapid population growth after World War II, especially in the northern part of the County, resulted in the conversion of agricultural land to other uses. Today, very little agricultural land remains in the northern part of the County. Agriculture remains a dominant element of the South County landscape.

The USDA Census of Agriculture defines a farm as "any place from which \$1,000 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, in the census year." The 2017 Census of Agriculture counted slightly over 27,000 acres of land in farms in Anne Arundel County, down about four percent from about 28,111 acres in 2012 (Table IV-1). Between 2007 and 2012 there was also a four percent decline from just over 29,200 acres down to 28,111.<sup>1</sup> These past two periods show a small decline compared to the 2002-2007 period, which saw a 17 percent decline from 35,200 acres in 2002. The decline from between 2012-2017 and between 2007-2012 are more similar to the earlier period

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<sup>1</sup> The Census of Agriculture (27,003 acres in farms) uses a different methodology for estimating agricultural acreage than the County, which uses land cover, as cited in Chapter II.



from 1997 to 2002, when there was a three percent decline. By comparison, in 1959, there were approximately 81,000 acres in farms countywide.

The number of farms increased slightly between 2012 and 2017, from 381 to 390 (9 more farms). By comparison, the County lost 4 farms between 2007 and 2012 and lost

55 farms (from 432 to 377) between 2002 and 2007. This new data shows that there are more farms, but the total acreage of farmland is on the decline. While the overall loss of farmland is a continuing concern, the continued low rate of loss and growth in numbers of farms indicates a growing stability in the farm economy and farmland base.

Table IV-1: *Selected Agricultural Statistics*

	2017		2012		Change	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Number and Acreage of Farms</b>						
Land in County (acres)	266,200		266,200			
Number of farms	390		381		9	2.4%
Land in farms (acres)	27,003	10%	28,111	11%	-1108	-3.9%
Average farm size (Acres)	69		74		-5	-6.8%
<b>Land in farms by land use (acres)</b>						
Cropland	14,551	54%	14,742	52%	-191	-1.3%
Woodland	6,480	24%	7,162	25%	-682	-9.5%
Pastureland	3,638	14%	3,609	13%	29	0.8%
House lots, buildings, ponds, roads	2,234	8%	2,598	9%	-364	-14.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,903</b>		<b>28,111</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>-1,208</b>	<b>-4.3%</b>
<b>Market Value of Production \$ millions</b>						
Crops	\$12.80		\$16.50		(\$3.70)	-22%
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans/peas	\$3.70	20%	\$5.40	27%	(\$1.70)	-31%
Nursery, greenhouse, flowers, sod	\$7.78	43%	\$9.30	47%	(\$1.52)	-16%
Other crops, hay	\$0.70	4%	\$0.50	3%	\$0.20	40%
Vegetables	\$0.40	2%	\$0.90	5%	(\$0.50)	-56%
Other	\$0.20	1%	\$0.30	2%	(\$0.10)	-33%
Cut Christmas tree/short rotation woody crops	(D)		(D)			
Tobacco	\$0.00	0%	(D)			
Livestock	\$5.30	29%	\$3.10	16%	\$2.20	71%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18.08</b>		<b>\$19.70</b>		<b>(\$1.62)</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Land used for Major Crops</b>						
Soybeans (acres)	4,245	34%	4,422	30%	-177	-4.0%
Corn (acres)	3,359	27%	4,427	30%	-1,068	-24.1%
Forage (acres)	3,738	30%	3,215	22%	523	16.3%
Wheat (acres)	1,078	9%	1,227	8%	-149	-12.1%
<b>Livestock Inventory</b>						
Cattle & Calves (number)	1,474		1,170		304	26.0%
Horses, ponies (number)	1,525		1,791		-266	-14.9%
<b>Principal Operator Primary Occupation</b>						
Farming	216		219	57%	-3	-1.4%
Other	318		162	43%	156	96.3%

Source: USDA Census of Agriculture [https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online\\_Resources/County\\_Profiles/Maryland/index.php](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/Online_Resources/County_Profiles/Maryland/index.php)

Some other key points from Table IV–1 are as follows:

- Average farm size continues a slow decrease; currently 68 acres as compared to 74 acres in 2012 and 78 acres in 2007.
- Cropland accounts for 54 percent of land in farms.
- About 40% of the “principal operators” counted in the census reported farming as their primary occupation. This is lower than 2012, when 57% reported farming as their primary occupation.
- The market value of nursery and greenhouse products account for 43% of the total market value of agricultural products.
- The numbers of cattle increased, and the number of horses and ponies decreased between 2012-2017. This is the opposite of the trend observed between 2007- 2012.
- The number of horses and ponies increased sharply from 2007 -2012, while the number of cattle continues to decrease.
- Agricultural product market value decreased by 8% between 2012 and 2017. The market value of grains, nursery and greenhouse products, vegetables, and other crops all decreased slightly. The market value of other crops and hay, as well as livestock, increased slightly.
- The leading crops in terms of acreage are hay, corn, and soybeans.

## Tobacco

Tobacco is now an insignificant crop in Anne Arundel County. Funded by a legal settlement with the tobacco industry at the end of the 1990s, in 2001 the State of Maryland initiated the Tobacco Buyout Program to offer monetary incentives to growers who produced tobacco in 1998 to forever cease tobacco production for human consumption.

The Program entered into contracts with 64 growers in Anne Arundel County representing approximately 4,204 acres. Under the contract, the grower agreed to remain in agriculture for the ten years of the payment. During that time, landowners who took the Buyout and wished to place their land in a County or State farmland protection program, received a 10 percent bonus.

# Goals and Objectives

## General Development Plan

### *Overall Goals and Objectives*

Plan2040’s agricultural goal is to: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County’s greenways, open space, rural areas and the Priority Preservation Area (Goal NE3).<sup>2</sup>

Supporting policies are as follows:

- Increase the amount of protected land in the County (Policy NE3.1).
- Preserve 80 percent of undeveloped land within the Priority Preservation Area through protective easements in order to meet the State’s PPA protection goal (Policy NE3.3).

A related goal is to: Preserve the agricultural and rural character of the County’s Rural and Agricultural Policy Area (Goal BE2).<sup>3</sup>

One of the supporting policies is: Maintain limited development patterns compatible with and intrinsic to the rural parts of the County by using the Rural and Agricultural land use designation as the primary planning mechanism for preserving the character of the County’s Rural and Agricultural Policy Area. Limit development to rural densities beyond the boundary of County’s public sewer service area (Policy BE2.1).

### *Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program Goals*

In 1990 the County created an Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program that established voluntary agricultural and woodland districts and the purchase of conservation easements. The program’s goal, established in 1993, was to preserve 20,000 acres of farm and forest through easement acquisitions.

An update for the program regulations is scheduled to begin May 2022, which will include revision to the easement priority rating and permitted uses on minimum acreage.

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<sup>2</sup> Planning for the Natural Environment Chapter, Plan2040 Volume 1; page 28.

<sup>3</sup> Planning for the Built Environment Chapter, Plan2040 Volume 1; page 48.

## Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program Goal Validation

The 2017 LPPRP concluded that the County's goal of achieving permanent preservation of 20,000 acres of farmland remained a reasonable goal to work towards, given the substantial amount of land already preserved, continued strong interest in agricultural preservation, the presence of de facto protected lands (lands that are not eligible for the preservation programs described on page 104, but that cannot be further subdivided), and the pool of land that could potentially be protected.

Since 2017, the County has continued to fund land preservation through the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program in addition to matching funds support for MALPF and the Rural Legacy Program easements. Sufficient acreage exists to potentially meet the 20,000-acre goal within the Priority Preservation Area (PPA) and Rural Legacy Area (RLA) (see page 111), and additional easements could also be purchased on eligible farmland outside the PPA/RLA. The 20,000-acre goal includes acres protected within, contiguous to and outside the PPA whereas the 80% goal in the PPA includes land protected by ag preservation and all other programs and government ownership.

The success of the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program has been validated by the State's decision to re-certify the County's agricultural land preservation program to 2023.

These findings, combined with the protections provided by the County's rural zoning and Growth Tiers (see page 113) show that the goal of 20,000 acres of permanently preserved farmland remains valid.

While Anne Arundel County has established multiple programs and mechanisms which provide various approaches and strategies for identifying and protecting agricultural lands, and the State and County continue to provide funding in support of those programs, landowner participation is the key determining factor in the County's ability to meet its goals and that interest and action by those landowners is solely voluntary. Any perceived shortfalls are attributable to a lack of property owner interest, not the absence of abilities and funding for farmland conservation. The County is on track to surpass 15,000 protected acres en route to meeting the Plan2040 goal for protected agricultural lands.

## **Consistency with State of Maryland Goals**

The State of Maryland's goals for agricultural land preservation are shown in Figure IV-1.

County goals are consistent with the State's goals. The South County SAP goals closely correspond to the Maryland goals 1-4. The Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program's goal to preserve 20,000 acres of farm and forest, in combination with the County's land use plan, supports goals 3 and 5 by seeking to establish contiguous blocks of agricultural land and woodlands within an area that supports the farm economy.

The Program has protected significant contiguous blocks of agricultural land and woodlands in South County, consistent with State goal #3. The South County SAP's emphasis on landscape preservation is consistent with State Goal # 2.

The State goals detailed in Goal #6 below are supported by the County's agricultural land preservation implementation program, described in the next section.

The upcoming Regional Plans will also take into account the State of Maryland's Goals for Agricultural Land Preservation.

## **Current Implementation Programs and Progress Since the 2017 LPPRP**

Several programs and mechanisms operate in Anne Arundel County to achieve agricultural land preservation goals. The County's policies and programs focus on maintaining agriculture as a viable sector within the County's economy and on preserving agriculture as a key element of the rural character of South County.

Future changes to the Code are anticipated in the areas of priority ranking and permitted uses on agricultural land and woodlands currently protected under an easement.

## **Designated Preservation Areas**

The County has two designated agricultural land preservation areas: the Anne Arundel South Rural Legacy Area (RLA) and the County's Priority Preservation Area (PPA) (Map IV-1).

The RLA was proposed by the County and approved by the State in 1998, as a 32,550-acre portion of South County. The Rural Legacy Program, run by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), consists of two concepts: delineating a specific geographic area of a county in need of



focused land conservation efforts, and acquiring easements from willing landowners within that area.

Key goals of the RLA are to complete a greenway of gently rolling farmland, preserving views from some of the County's most scenic and historic roads, and to protect multiple other scenic, historic, and natural resources. The Anne Arundel RLA is part of a multi-county swath of land designated for preservation. It connects to the Patuxent RLA that extends through Prince George's County along the Patuxent River, and to the North Calvert RLA (Map IV-2).

The RLA is now approximately 37,381 acres in size. Approximately 16,562 acres (44 percent) of the RLA has been protected as of February 2020. Of these, approximately 1,723 acres were preserved through the Rural Legacy program and 200 acres through MDNR's Community Connections Program.

The County's Priority Preservation Area (PPA) was established in the 2009 GDP, and included the entire RLA, plus two additional areas totaling approximately 7,000 acres. The PPA responded to the Maryland Agricultural Stewardship Act of

2006, which authorized counties to include a PPA element in their comprehensive plans. The establishment of a PPA is mandatory for counties such as Anne Arundel that have a State-certified agricultural land preservation program.<sup>4</sup> Establishment of the PPA provides an opportunity for the State and local jurisdiction to better target preservation funds to those areas that will provide the most benefit toward meeting a county's preservation goals. The County retains the ability to purchase easements outside of the PPA using the three existing easement acquisition programs, but additional State funding, when available, will be targeted toward preservation within the PPA. The State requires that a PPA meet the following criteria:

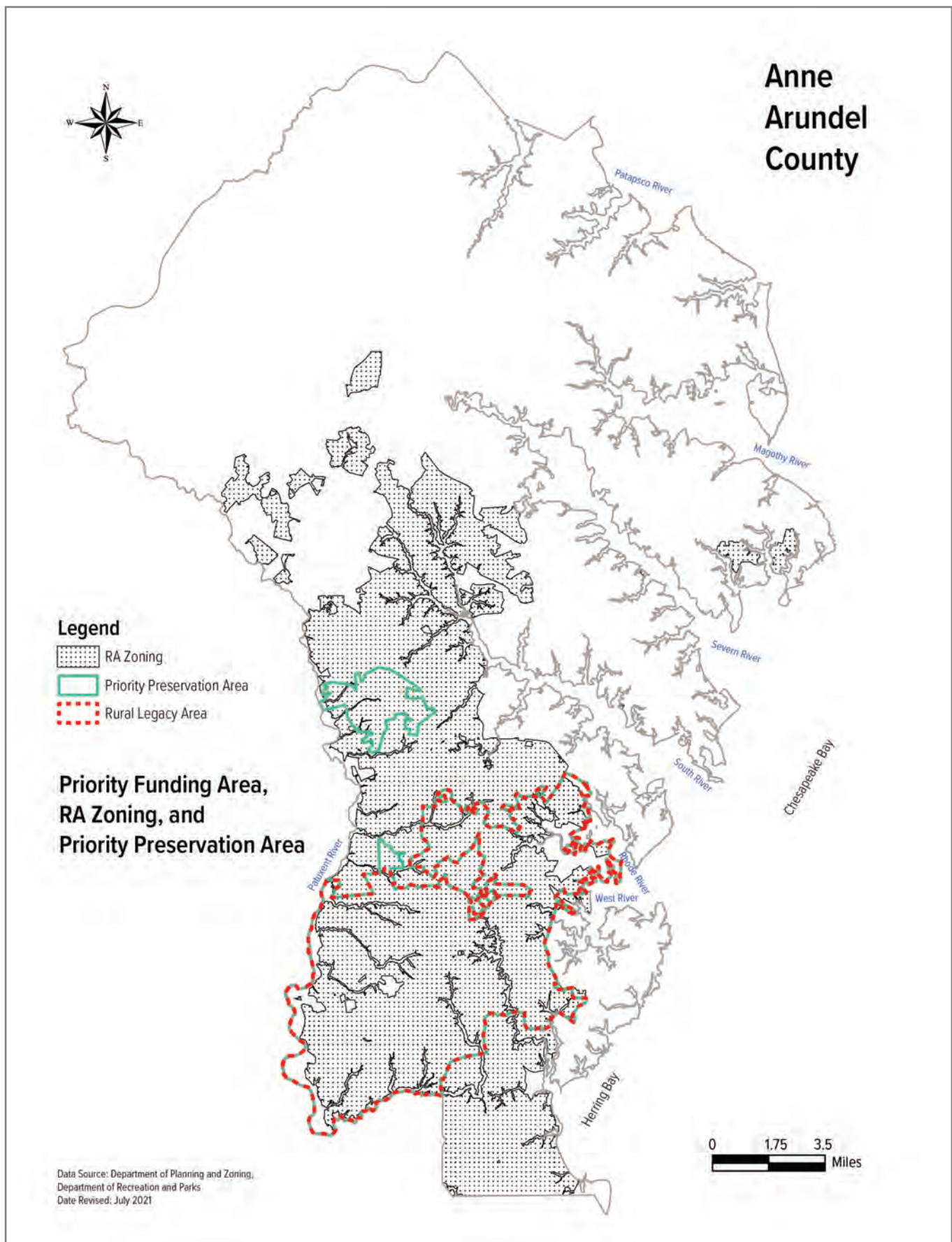
- The area must contain productive agricultural or forest soils or be capable of supporting profitable agricultural and forestry enterprises;
- The area must be governed by local policies that stabilize the agricultural or forest land base so that development does not convert or compromise agricultural and forestry resources;

#### *Figure IV-1: State of Maryland Goals for Agricultural Land Preservation*

1. Permanently preserve agricultural land capable of supporting a reasonable diversity of agricultural production.
2. Protect natural, forestry, and historic resources and the rural character of the landscape associated with Maryland's farmland.
3. To the greatest degree possible, concentrate preserved land in large, relatively contiguous blocks to effectively support long-term protection of resources and resource-based industries.
4. Limit the intrusion of development and its impacts on rural resources and resource-based industries.
5. Ensure good return on public investment by concentrating state agricultural land preservation funds in areas where the investment is reasonably well supported by both local investment and land use management programs.
6. Work with local governments to achieve the following:
  - » Establish preservation areas, goals, and strategies through local comprehensive planning processes that address and complement State goals;
  - » In each area designated for preservation, develop a shared understanding of goals and the strategy to achieve them among rural landowners, the public-at-large, and State and local government officials;
  - » Protect the equity interests of rural landowners in preservation areas by ensuring sufficient public commitment and investment in preservation through easement acquisition and incentive programs;
  - » Use local land use management authority effectively to protect public investment in preservation by managing development in rural preservation areas; and
  - » Establish effective measures to support profitable agriculture, including assistance in production, marketing, and the practice of stewardship, so that farming remains a desirable way of life for both the farmer and the public-at-large.

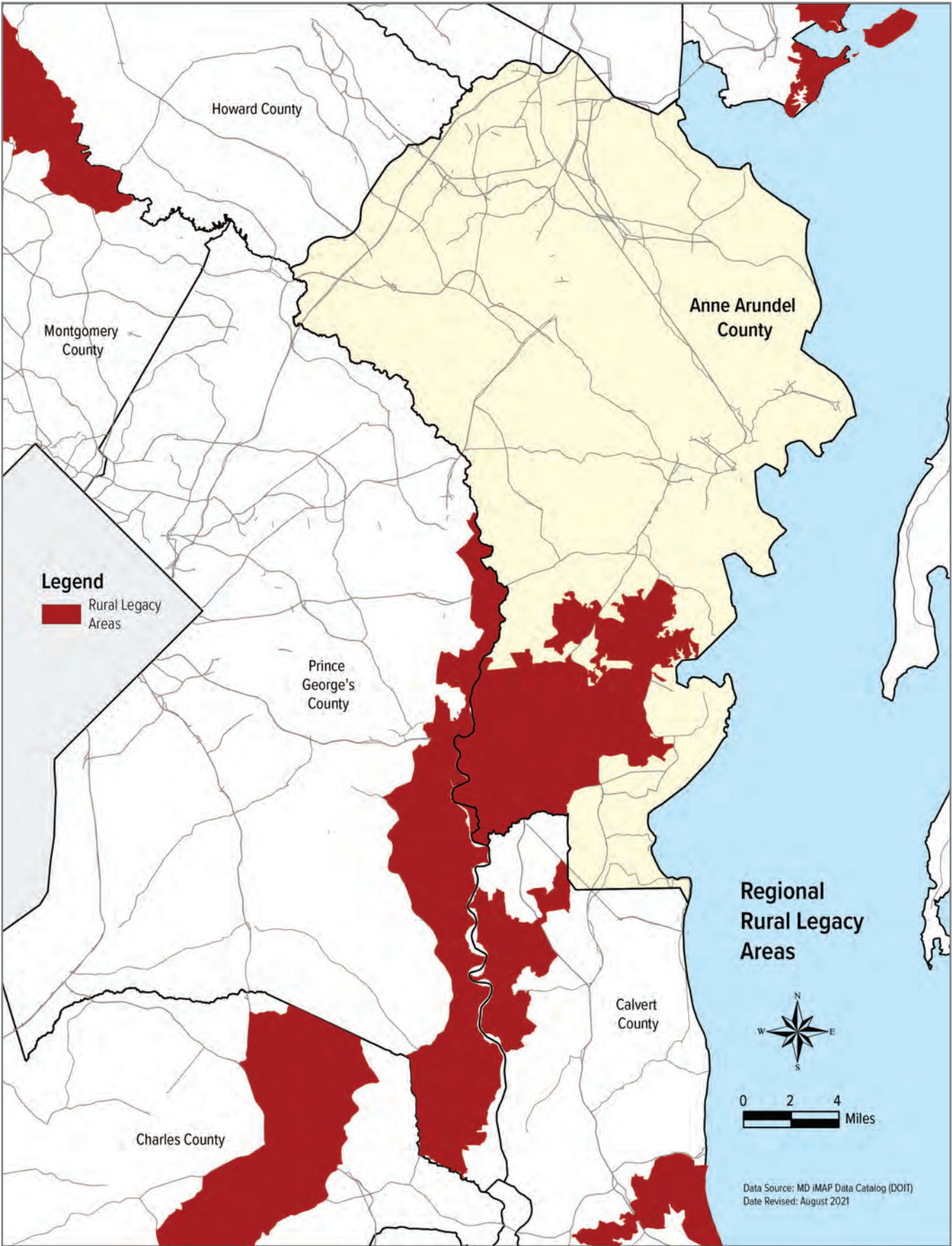
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4 MDP and the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation recertified Anne Arundel County's agricultural land preservation program through 2023.





Map IV-2: Regional Rural Legacy Areas



- The area must be large enough to support the kind of agricultural operations that the County seeks to preserve; and
- The area must include an acreage goal for land to be preserved through easements and zoning in the PPA equal to at least 80% of the remaining undeveloped land in the area.

Based on these criteria, the County defined a PPA boundary by identifying properties that contain productive soils (Class I, II or III soil types), that lie within the Rural Agricultural (RA) zoning district, and that are 50 acres or more in size. The County also took into consideration proximity to land parcels already protected by an agricultural preservation easement as well as the potential to form larger contiguous areas of preserved land. The County's PPA is divided into two main areas, both located within South County. In Plan2040, the County increased the area within the PPA. The boundary of the southern portion of the PPA was adjusted to match the RLA boundary at the southeastern extent. The newly expanded PPA includes five additional existing easement properties totaling 558 acres, along with 405 additional acres of unpreserved land.

The key differences between the RLA and PPA are:

- The PPA's goal is to protect 80% of remaining undeveloped land and is focused on profitable agriculture and forestry.
- RLA's preservation goals are broader in that they are also focused on other scenic, historic, and natural resources.

These goals are complementary for Anne Arundel's PPA/RLA, giving the County a clearly focused geographical area in which to focus its land preservation efforts.

The PPA and RLA both lie within the Plan2040's Rural and Agricultural Policy Area (see Map II-8). Plan2040 characterizes the Rural and Agricultural policy area by large lot residential areas, farms, and very limited commercial and industrial areas outside of the Priority Funding Area (PFA). These areas are served by private septic systems. Development is limited to protect the rural and agricultural heritage and economy and limit the costly extension of public facilities and services.

According to the County's Master Plan for Water Supply and Sewerage Systems effective August 2, 2019, the Rural Service Area encompasses 129,503 acres of the County land outside of designated sewer service areas. Approximately 11,963 acres of the service area are vacant. There are no plans to extend public utilities into the Rural Service Area in the foreseeable future.

Rural and agricultural character and land use are implemented largely through the County's lower density rural zoning districts, and through the County's Growth Tiers, both of which are described in Land Use Management, Zoning, on page 113.

## Easement Acquisition Mechanisms

The primary easement acquisition mechanisms for farmland are the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF), the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program, and the Rural Legacy Program. Table IV-2 summarizes the recent activities of these preservation programs. Map IV-3 shows preserved agricultural lands in Anne Arundel County.

As shown in Map IV-3, the vast majority of the agricultural program activity is in South County, south of US 50/301.

Table IV-2: *Summary of Protected Agricultural Lands*

Preservation Type	Total Acres Preserved				
	December 2011	December 2016	Change 2011-2016	May 2021	Change 2016-2020
<b>Permanently Protected (Easement)</b>					
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation	4,773	5,399	626	5,485	86
County Agriculture and Woodland Protection	6,118	6,118	0	6,553	435
South Rural Legacy Area	1,111	1,460	349	1,723	263
Community Connections (DNR)	0	200	200	200	0
<b>Total Permanently Protected</b>	<b>12,002</b>	<b>12,977</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>13,991</b>	<b>814</b>
County Districts (not permanent)	2,176	3,044	868	2,964	-80



Map IV-3: Agricultural Easements and Districts

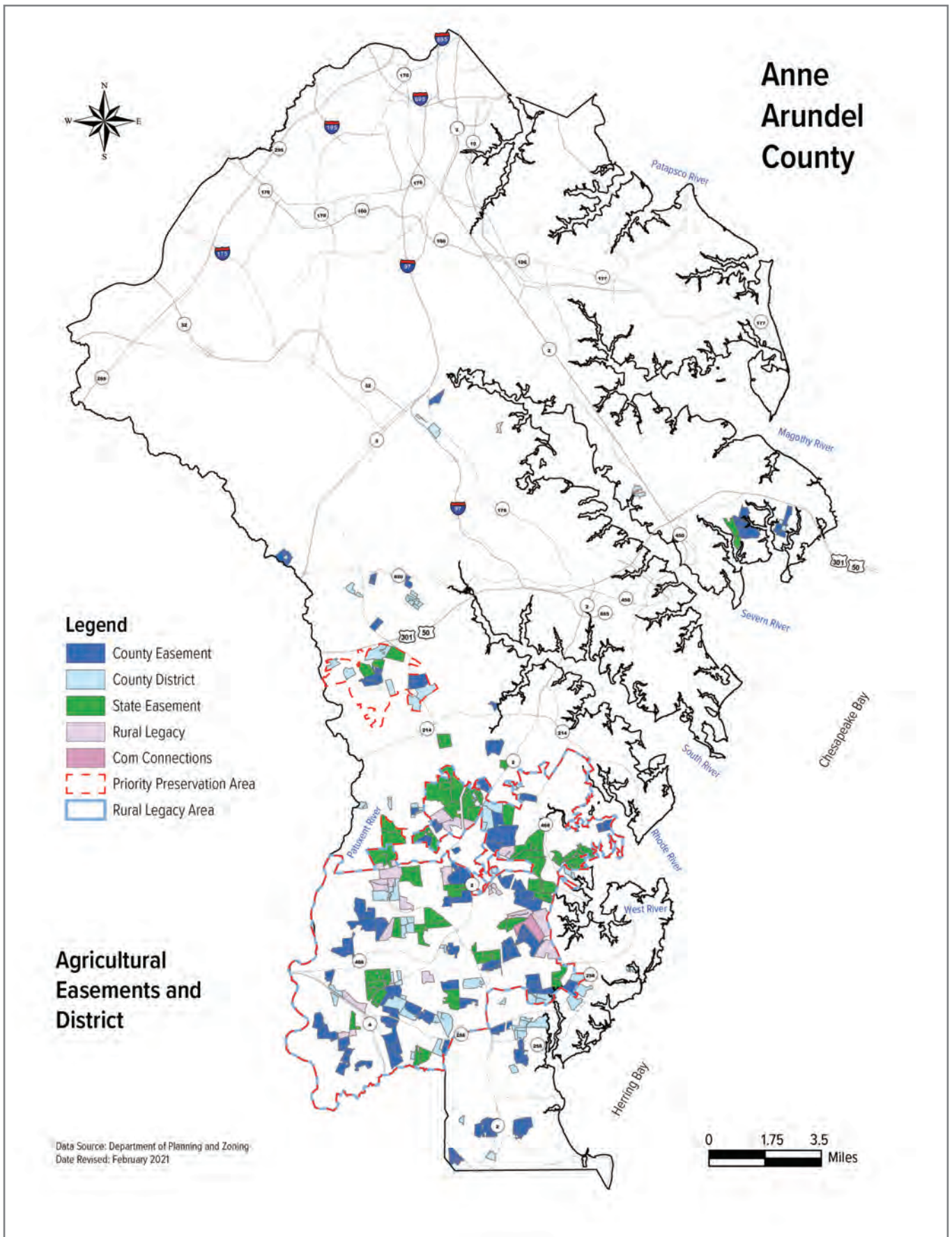
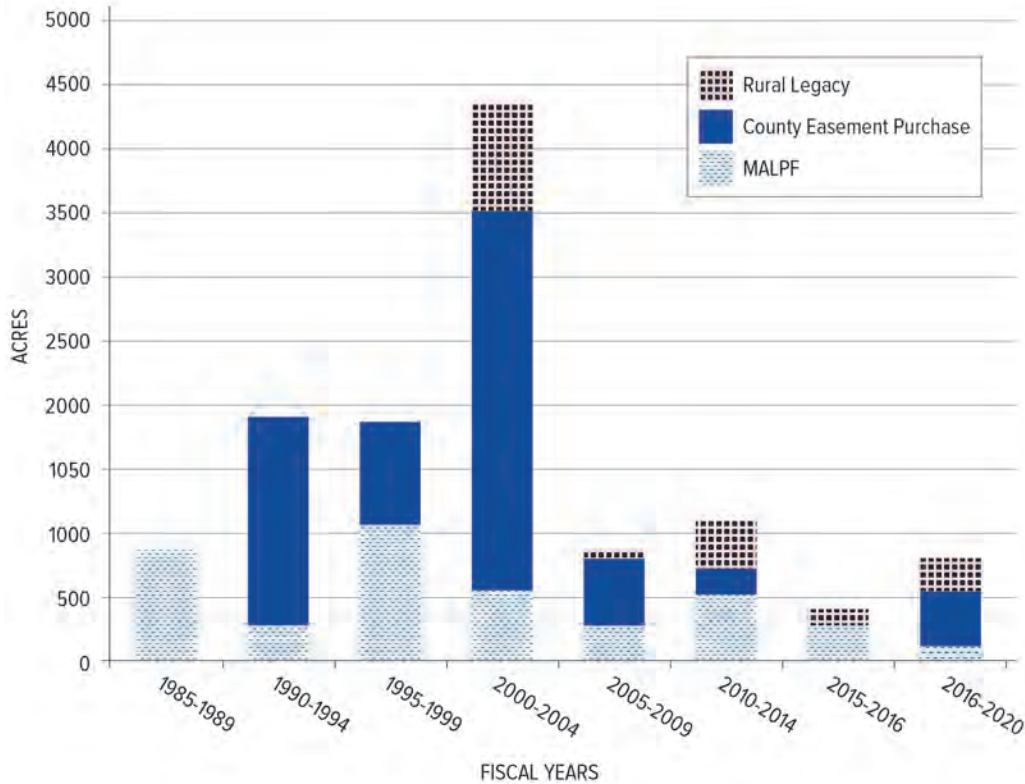


Figure IV–2: *Agricultural Preservation 1985 to 2020*



Another small concentration is on the Broadneck Peninsula south of US 50/301. One easement is also found in the Severn River watershed near the intersection of I-97 and MD 32.

### *Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF)*

MALPF is a purchase of development rights program. Anne Arundel County has participated in the MALPF program since 1980. As of May 2021, Anne Arundel County had permanently preserved 5,485 acres through MALPF easements (Table IV–2). As shown in Figure IV–2, the sale of MALPF easements has generally slowed since the 1980s.

Until 2008, the MALPF preservation program was a two-step process involving the creation of temporary Agricultural Preservation Districts, followed by sale of permanent easements from within those districts. MALPF now uses a one-step easement process, with a 50-acre minimum easement size, and no district program.

Anne Arundel County maintains its own Agricultural Preservation District program, the Agricultural Woodland Preservation Program.

### *Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program*

The County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program was created in 1990 and has been certified by the (MALPF and MDP since 1992. The County's application for re-certification was recently approved in August of 2020 through 2023.

The program was created to supplement the MALPF program and offer an alternative for agricultural preservation that recognized the County's small farms. As with MALPF, properties must comprise at least 50 acres to be eligible for the County's' program.

As of May 2021, the County had permanently preserved a total of 6,553 acres through this program (Table IV–2). As shown in Figure IV–2, easement acquisition through the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program peaked from 2000 to 2004. Between 2009 and 2016, few easements were purchased, due to lower State funding levels and diminished landowner interest. However, between 2016 and 2020, easement increased again.

In 1999 an Installment Purchase Agreement (IPA) option was added to stimulate interest and add value to the program. In recent years, low interest rates, combined with the IPA

option's 30-year repayment term, made the IPA option unattractive to potential sellers. Shorter IPA terms are not cost-effective for the County. These conditions led to minimal participation since approximately 2011. As a result, the IPA option was discontinued in 2016, and the County Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program began offering cash at settlement.

### *Rural Legacy Area*

As of May 2021, a total of 1,723 acres had been permanently preserved in Anne Arundel County through the Rural Legacy program, including 263 acres since 2016 (Table IV–2).

Also, within the RLA, but in addition to the Rural Legacy program, 200 acres were preserved under the Community Connections program in 2012

### *Land Trusts and Other Private Conservation efforts*

Anne Arundel County has a number of local land trusts and the Maryland Environmental Trust (MET), a statewide land trust, is also active. The focus of these trusts, however, is on natural resource land conservation. Chapter V discusses their contribution to land preservation.

### *Temporary Agricultural Districts*

The County's District Program remains in effect. Entering the District Program requires a 10-year commitment to not exercise development rights. In exchange, participants receive a tax credit. Regulations for the program are provided in §17-10-203 of the County Code.

Currently there are 2,964 acres enrolled as County Districts.

## **Funding for Acquisition**

Placing conservation easements on private land from willing owners is the chief mechanism for permanently protecting agricultural land in Anne Arundel County. As discussed in the previous section, these easements have been purchased through MALPF, the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program, or Maryland's Rural Legacy program. Local funds used to match State dollars are generated from a number of sources.

When agricultural land in Maryland is sold for development, a small percentage of the transaction value is paid to recapture the preferential taxation rate the land enjoyed due to its previous agricultural use. This revenue is split between the State and the county in which the sale occurred and is

intended for farmland preservation. Through FY21, Anne Arundel County has spent \$6.7 million of agricultural transfer funds, on agricultural preservation.

Anne Arundel County and other counties with an agricultural preservation program that is certified by Maryland Department of Planning and Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) may hold back 75 percent of revenues collected to be used to purchase easements within six years.

Overall, since 1980, approximately \$71.4 million has been spent in the County on agricultural land preservation, including 60 percent from County sources, 39 percent from the State and 1 percent from the federal government. Table IV–3 and Figure IV–3 summarize this funding since 1980.

Figure IV–3 and Table IV–3 depict actual agricultural preservation expenditures, which are different from budget allocations. Expenditures may be less than allocated funds due to multiple factors, such as landowner interest, the availability of state matching funds, or delays in the easement purchase transactions.

Whereas expenditures have varied considerably over the years, County budget allocations for agricultural preservation (not depicted in Figure IV–3 or Table IV–3) have been relatively consistent. After 2000, the County increased its annual budget allocation for agricultural preservation to \$3 million per year, and maintained this amount through 2011, when IPA option participation decreased substantially. Anne Arundel County has continually and consistently funded the program to meet the application load. Landowner interest has been consistent, and the County will continue to market the program to increase interest however, participation in the program is voluntary.

Appropriations for fiscal years 2017-2020 were between \$2.1 and \$2.8 million per year. These yearly appropriations included matching funds for MALPF and Rural Legacy, when necessary. Anne Arundel County's current practice is to include \$2.1 million in each year's Capital Improvements Plan budget for acquisition.

### *Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF)*

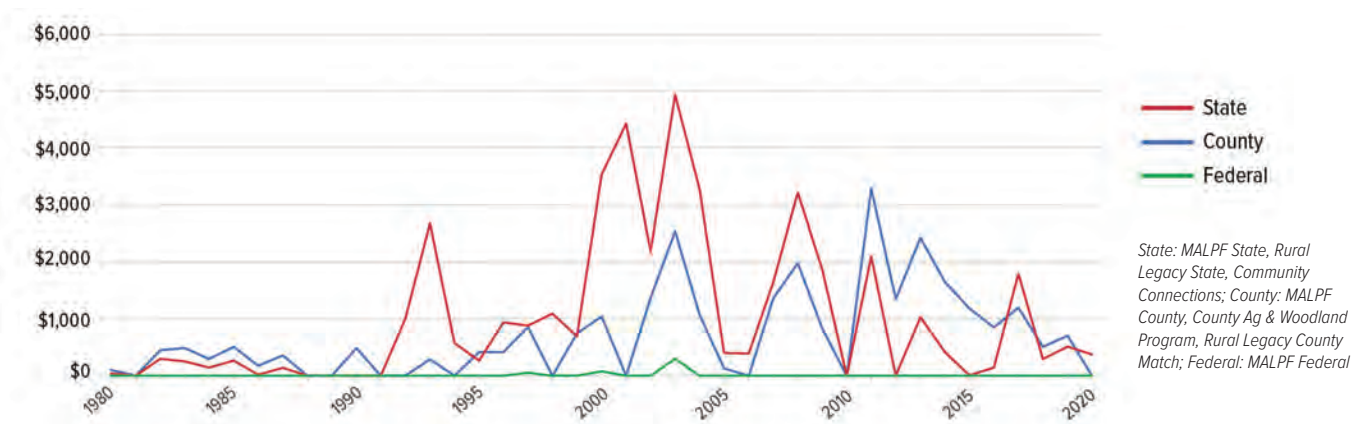
A total of approximately \$22.5 million of MALPF funds have been spent since 1980 to preserve 5,485 acres of farmland in Anne Arundel County.



Table IV-3: *Agricultural Preservation Expenditures Summary (\$ thousands)*

Fiscal Year	MALPF			County Agriculture & Woodland Program	Rural Legacy		Community Connections	Total
	State	County	Federal		State	County Match		
1980 to 1984	\$1,334	\$737	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,072
1985 to 1989	\$1,043	\$426	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,469
1990 to 1994	\$777	\$121	\$0	\$4,138	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$5,037
1995 to 1999	\$2,437	\$1,278	\$53	\$2,597	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,364
2000 to 2004	\$1,754	\$458	\$377	\$17,068	\$4,273	\$822	\$0	\$24,753
2005 to 2009	\$3,344	\$670	\$0	\$6,851	\$961	\$6	\$0	\$11,832
2010 to 2014	\$3,808	\$1,641	\$0	\$1,487	\$3,552	\$418	\$1,350	\$12,255
2015 to 2020	\$1,958	\$543	\$0	\$2,407	\$2,492	\$180	\$0	\$7,580
Total	\$16,457	\$5,872	\$429	\$34,548	\$11,277	\$1,427	\$1,350	\$71,360
% of Total	23%	8%	1%	48%	16%	2%	2%	

Figure IV-3: *Agricultural Preservation Expenditures Summary (\$ thousands)*



### County Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program

Spending on the County Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program since 1992 has totaled \$34.5 million from four sources:

- County General Fund appropriations
- County Installment Purchase Agreement (IPA) bonds
- Agricultural Transfer Tax
- Other revenues

#### County Installment Purchase Agreement (IPA) bonds

Beginning in 2000 IPA bonds began to replace general fund appropriations, with the intent of devoting \$3 million per year in annual tax revenues to the program. Under the IPA program the County promised to pay the purchase price for an easement, as well as the interest that has accrued on the

outstanding purchase price, in installments on specified dates in the future. The intent of the IPA program was to allow the County to make more easement purchases and at a faster pace than possible via cash-at-settlement.

As described under the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program section on page 110, interest in the IPA program ceased due to market conditions, and the IPA program was discontinued in 2016.

#### Agricultural Transfer Tax

Agricultural transfer taxes are collected by the State when farmland (including woodland) anywhere in the County is sold and converted to another land use. This tax is a primary source of funding for the statewide agricultural land preservation program, and a portion of these taxes are dedicated for the County's Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program.

## Other revenues

Other revenues to the County's program are small and come from a variety of sources such as grants, tobacco buyout funds, and federal sources.

### *Rural Legacy*

Between 2002 and 2020 the state awarded approximately \$12.5 million in Rural Legacy funds to the Anne Arundel RLA. The County provided matching funds from the County General Fund of \$1.4 million for these awards (Table IV–3). These funds afforded Anne Arundel County to preserve a total of 1,723 acres through the Rural Legacy Program.

### *Federal Funds*

Since 1998 the Federal government has made relatively small amounts of funds available for the purchase of development rights on farmland through the Farmland Preservation Program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). NRCS funding is awarded on a competitive basis; as a result, Anne Arundel County has joined with other Maryland counties and the State to win dollars to partially fund easement purchases. Between 1997 and 2003, Anne Arundel County received approximately \$430,000 which was applied to purchase MALPF easements.

### *Tax Credit Program*

Since 1990 the County has offered a 10-year real property tax credit to landowners who participate in the County or MALPF district or easement program. The credit is 100 percent on land and up to \$250,000 of assessed value of structures. In FY 2021, the value of these credits (in terms of forgone County revenue) was \$618,844 (\$365,156 on easement properties and \$253,688 on district properties).

## **Land Use Management Authority**

### *Zoning*

The General Development Plan's land use element is implemented primarily through the County's Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations. The key zoning district is the County's Rural Agricultural (RA) zoning district, which comprises approximately 80,100 acres or 30 percent of the County.

In 2005, as part of comprehensive changes to the Zoning and Subdivision Codes, the County adopted protective zoning in this district that permits major residential subdivisions only at density of one dwelling unit per 20 acres. One additional dwelling unit is permitted for residual acreage over 10 acres.

For parcels over 50 acres, one additional dwelling unit is permitted for every 50 acres.

In accordance with the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012, the OPZ administers Growth Tiers. The PPA/Rural Legacy Area is all in Tier 4, in which major subdivisions (more than five lots) are prohibited. Minor subdivisions are permitted in Tier 4 (up to a maximum of five lots) and must use on-site septic systems; public sewer systems are not available in Tier 4. The RA zoning and Tier 4 subdivision restrictions protect rural character and agricultural land.

### *Right to Farm*

Anne Arundel County adopted a right to farm ordinance in 2004 (Bill 58-04), to encourage the protection of the County's agricultural and forest lands. The ordinance was intended to prevent nuisance lawsuits, which may arise from residential growth in agricultural areas, and to protect the economic viability of farming in the County.

## **Farming Support**

Agriculture agencies and support entities serving Anne Arundel County are important partners in preserving agricultural industries. These include federal, state, and county agencies—such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and MDA—as well as quasi-governmental organizations that support farming, such as the Anne Arundel Soil Conservation District (SCD).

The County Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board is established in §17-10-202 of the County Code, and has broad responsibilities, including

- Advising the County concerning the establishment of agricultural districts and purchases of easements;
- Making recommendations to the County Executive concerning budget and appropriation requests;
- Promoting preservation of agriculture; and
- Preparing and reviewing recommendations concerning County policies and programs for agricultural and woodland preservation.

The Maryland Farm Bureau is a private non-profit organization that promotes and protects agriculture and rural life. Anne Arundel County has an active local branch of the state bureau.

The University of Maryland Extension (UME) (formerly Maryland Cooperative Extension), is a statewide, informal educational system, administered through the College

of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland College Park. UME maintains an office at the former Naval Academy Dairy Farm in Gambrills. Anne Arundel County Government has a thirty-year lease with the Federal Government on the 857-acre property.

### *Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC)*

AAEDC recognizes that agriculture is a significant contributor to the economic health and quality of life in Anne Arundel County. According to the 2017 Agriculture Census, Anne Arundel County had 390 farms on just over 27,000 acres of land.

As a result, the Arundel Agriculture Program was established under AAEDC to foster economic development strategies that support the county's agricultural businesses. Arundel Ag provides resources to support county farms, producers and to meet the business needs of the Agricultural community. Arundel agriculture also helps to market the county's agri-business and engage the public to support locally grown, made, and produced products. Additionally, Arundel Ag offers the agriculture community the following programs and services: Equipment Rental Program (funded by grants from SMADC), an Agriculture Scrap Tire Program, Marketing and Business Development Assistance, grants, and loans.

Arundel Ag serves on the Agriculture, Farming and Agritourism Commission which is made up of county government representatives, agriculture agencies and farmers. The Commission advises and reports to the County Executive and the County Office of Planning and Zoning on the promotion, coordination, development, furtherance and establishment of agriculture, farming, and agritourism uses within the County, such as: recommending changes to the agriculture, farming, and agritourism provisions in the County Code; activities or land uses that fall within the definition of agriculture, farming, and agritourism as set forth in Bill 67-17, community impacts of proposed or actual agriculture, farming, and agritourism uses within the County; educating residents of the County about agriculture, farming, and agritourism within the County. As a result of the group's efforts numerous pieces of legislation that have a positive impact on agriculture have been adopted into county code including but not limited to Bill 67-17 and 69-20.

### *Farmers Markets*

There are ten farmers markets in Anne Arundel County, including one in the City of Annapolis:

- Anne Arundel County Farmers Market
- Brooklyn Park Farmers Market
- Crofton Farmers Market
- Glen Burnie Farmers Market
- Honey's Harvest Farmers Market
- Luminis Health Farmers Market
- Luminis Health/HACA Farmers Market
- Piney Orchard Farmers Market
- Severna Park Farmers Market
- SoCo Farmers Market

Coupon programs for seniors and for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) allow eligible participants to purchase local produce. The County also encourages local restaurants to purchase fresh produce from local farms.

### *School Programs*

An agriculture pilot program was initiated at Southern High School, in partnership with the Farm Bureau, Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation and AAEDC. The pilot program, now accredited through the National Council for Agricultural Education's Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE), offers classes in agriculture, plant science and biotechnology. A Future Farmers of America Chapter was also re-established at the school. A second CASE program exists at Phoenix Academy in Annapolis.



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Sandy Point State Park  
Source: Chesapeake Bay Program via Flickr

# Chapter V: Natural Resources and Land Conservation

## Introduction

This chapter evaluates Anne Arundel County's strategies to achieve State and County goals for protecting and conserving natural resource lands. Such lands contain forests, wetlands, floodplains, shorelines, streams, stream buffers, and other sensitive natural features.

Natural resource lands provide significant benefits. They help maintain the rural character of large parts of the County and the physical attractiveness of developed areas. They provide wildlife habitat, filtration for air and water pollutants, and opportunities for resource-based recreation. They form the natural framework around which the built environment is planned and developed, and provide flood, erosion, and sediment control. Natural resource lands require few government services, provide opportunities for ecotourism, and enhance property values in developed areas.

## Planning Context and Goals

This section discusses County plans related to natural resource conservation, and the interrelationships between the State's and County's goals for natural resource land conservation.

### Plan2040

As noted in Chapter II, Resilient, Environmentally-Sound, and Sustainable Communities is one of the Plan2040's five overarching themes. Goals set forth in the Planning for the Natural Environment Chapter are:

- Preserve, enhance, and restore sensitive areas, including habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, streams, floodplains, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, bogs, shorelines, steep slopes, and all applicable buffers. (NE1)
- Retain existing forest cover, increase forest replanting efforts, and increase urban tree canopy. (NE2)
- Expand, enhance, and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA). (NE3)
- Improve and protect water quality by reducing impacts from stormwater runoff, wastewater discharge, and septic systems. (NE4)
- Ensure the safe and adequate supply of groundwater resources and wastewater treatment services for current and future generations. (NE5)
- Create resilient, environmentally-sound and sustainable communities. (NE6)

Policies and actions provide additional detail on these goals.

The County's Water Resources Plan (Section 5 of the Planning for the Natural Environment Chapter) outlines a mitigation plan that is consistent with the watershed protection goals and policies set forth in the chapter.



## Comprehensive Planning Context

Plan2040's vision and goals establish the countywide framework for integrating natural resource conservation with land use policies. The framework has six basic elements, discussed in detail below:

- Designated growth areas;
- Designated conservation areas;
- Region plans;
- Watershed management;
- Green Infrastructure protection; and
- Sensitive resource protection.

### *Designated growth areas*

As described in Chapter II, a key theme of Plan2040 is Resilient, Environmentally-Sound, and Sustainable Communities which means balancing growth and sustainability by conserving areas that are mostly rural, agricultural, and open space, and concentrating development in suitable areas that have existing or planned public facilities. The designated growth areas have a special focus on the

- Critical Economic Growth Areas in Fort Meade, BWI Airport, Laurel Racetrack, and business and light or heavy industrial areas along the northern County border with Baltimore City, and
- Town Center Growth Management Areas located in Glen Burnie, Odenton, and Parole.

### *Designated conservation areas*

As noted in Chapter II, the County's designated conservation areas are (see Map II-10):

- The Resource Conservation Area portions of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area.
- The Priority Preservation Area.
- Green Infrastructure Network from the County's Green Infrastructure Master Plan.
- Portions of the County Open Space Zoning District that are not within the Greenways Network that comprise conservation areas, parkland, and other open space. Open space zoning is a mapped zoning district in Anne Arundel County comprising 100-year floodplains, wetlands, parkland, and other open space.

### *Region Plans*

As discussed in Chapters II, III and IV, Plan2040 shifted planning from 16 Small Area Plans (SAPs) to nine Region Plans. As the Region Plans are developed, they will provide future recommendations to refine and implement Plan2040 land development and conservation strategies.

### *Watershed management*

Watershed management is implemented by the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program within the Department of Public Works. The program is described in the Watershed Management Section on page 130.

### *Greenway and Green Infrastructure protection*

Maryland's Green Infrastructure initiative focuses on identifying large, contiguous blocks of ecologically significant natural areas (hubs) and linking them with natural corridors to create an interconnected network of natural resource lands across the state.

The Green Infrastructure initiative has evolved over the years into a program called Maryland GreenPrint that identifies Targeted Ecological Areas preferred for Statewide Program Open Space funding based on their high ecological value.

Anne Arundel County's 2022 Green Infrastructure Plan was adopted by the County Council in April 2022. The Plan is a guide to conserving an interconnected network of the most significant remaining natural lands in Anne Arundel County, and is an update to the award-winning 2002 Greenways Master Plan.

The 2002 Greenways Master Plan used five criteria in assessing land as potential greenways: habitat value; size; connections to other land with ecological value; future potential (the potential to create greenways where they did not currently exist); and national and countywide trails.

The Green Infrastructure Master Plan builds on this previous work. The Green Infrastructure Master Plan uses higher quality data and more sophisticated technology than was available in 2002 to more accurately identify the Network. The Green Infrastructure Plan recognizes and addresses inequity in environmental conditions and access to green spaces in different parts of the County.

The Plan uses the term "green infrastructure" rather than "greenway," to take a more expansive approach to conserving and restoring green spaces throughout the County.

## *Sensitive resource protection*

The Land Use Management Authority Section on page 130 describes the County's comprehensive approach to sensitive resource protection.

## **Consistency with State Goals**

Anne Arundel County's goals for natural resource land conservation are consistent with the State's goals. Table V-1 lists the Maryland DNR 2017 goals for natural resource conservation and shows the alignment of these state goals with the related goals, policies, and actions from Plan2040.

In the past, the County used the Small Area Planning process to identify lands and waterways that support important natural resources and ecological functions, as per State goal #1. As noted above, several of the SAPs contain goals related to natural resource land conservation, and some incorporate natural resource land considerations into their vision statements. Once the Region Plans are completed, they will also cover the topic of Natural Environment (Sensitive Areas, Water Resources, Land Preservation).

Through the new Green Infrastructure Master Plan, the County synthesized its natural resource and open space inventories with DNR's inventory of green infrastructure, consistent with State goals 2 and 3.

## **County Implementation Program and Progress Since the 2017 LPPRP**

This section discusses major components of the County's implementation program for natural resources conservation.

These components, along with the implementation programs described in Chapters III and IV for recreation and agricultural land preservation, respectively, support the State's goals for natural resource land conservation.

## **Designated conservation areas**

The County's designated conservation areas total approximately 139,524 acres or approximately 53 percent of the County's land area.<sup>1</sup>

Development is not completely precluded in these conservation areas.

## *Green Infrastructure*

The Green Infrastructure Network incorporates the County's most significant natural areas, including streams and their adjacent wetlands, floodplains, steep slopes, lands protected by agricultural easements, forested areas, passive and active recreational areas, and cultural and historic resource areas.

The Network, which is shown in Map V-1, includes approximately 107,000 acres, which is about 41% of Anne Arundel County's total land area. Of the total Network, approximately 76,000 acres (70%) are designated as conserved. It should be noted that the Green Infrastructure Network does not include all conserved lands in the County, but rather conserved lands that meet the aforementioned criteria.

## **Open Space Zoning**

Anne Arundel County's Open Space zoning district comprises 100-year floodplains, wetlands, parkland, and other open space. Approximately 37,000 acres are zoned open space; almost 14 percent of the County. A limited set of land uses is permitted in the Open Space district, including farming, for example, but excluding new residential development.

## **Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Resource Conservation Area**

The Critical Area's Resource Conservation Area (RCA) is extensive in Anne Arundel County, covering approximately 22,500 acres. RCAs are particularly extensive in South County along the Chesapeake Bay and the Patuxent River, in the Broadneck Peninsula and in Lake Shore (Map V-3).

An important aspect of the County's Critical Area Program is providing natural areas that give opportunities for people to interact with the environment without disturbing natural processes. Natural areas in Anne Arundel County's Critical Area include:

- Patuxent River Greenway properties;
- Magothy Greenway Natural Area;
- Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. Environmental education programs here include canoe trips, a fish survey, pond and stream exploration, marsh ecology and identification of species;
- Jack Creek Park;
- Shady Cove Natural Area; and
- Back Creek Nature Park (City of Annapolis).

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<sup>1</sup> This total of 139,524 acres accounts for overlap among the areas (land is counted once only).

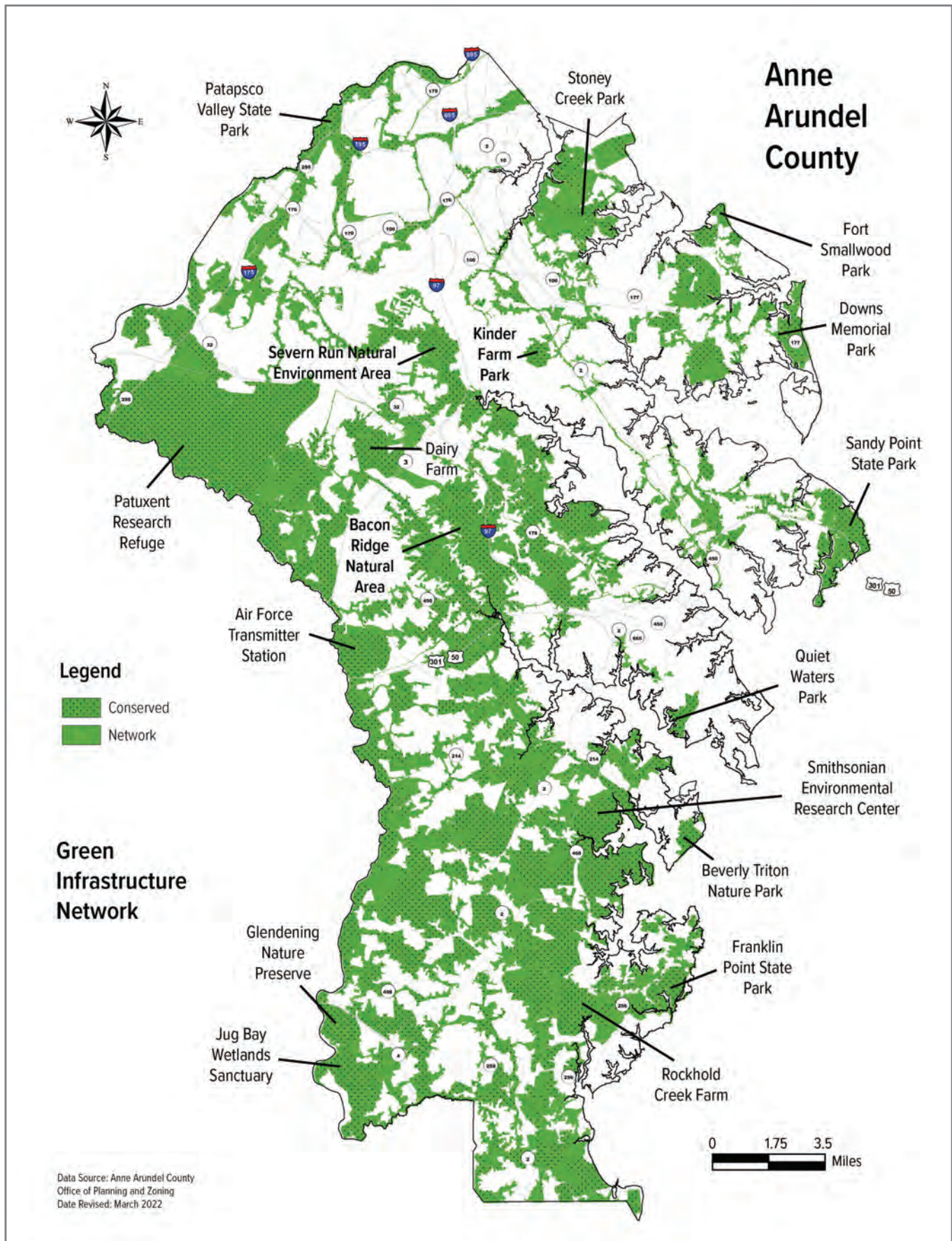
Table V-1: **State and County Goals for Natural Resources Land Conservation**

STATE GOAL	PLAN2040 GOAL (bold) PLAN2040 POLICY
<p>Identify, protect and restore lands and waterways in Maryland that support important aquatic and terrestrial natural resources and ecological functions, through combined use of the following techniques:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public land acquisition and stewardship;</li> <li>• Private land conservation easements and stewardship practices through purchased or donated easement programs;</li> <li>• Local land use management plans and procedures that conserve natural resources and environmentally sensitive areas and minimize impacts to resource lands when development occurs;</li> <li>• Incentives for resource-based economies that increase the retention of forests, wetlands or agricultural lands;</li> <li>• Avoidance of impacts on natural resources by publicly funded infrastructure development projects; and</li> <li>• Appropriate mitigation response, commensurate with the value of the affected resource.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GOAL BE2: Preserve the agricultural and rural character of the County's Rural and Agricultural Policy Area.</b></p> <p>Policy BE2.1: Maintain limited development patterns compatible with and intrinsic to the rural parts of the County by using the Rural and Agricultural land use designation as the primary planning mechanism for preserving the character of the County's Rural and Agricultural Policy Area. Limit development to rural densities beyond the boundary of County's public sewer service area.</p> <p><b>GOAL NE1: Preserve, enhance, and restore sensitive areas, including habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, streams, floodplains, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, bogs, shorelines, steep slopes, and all applicable buffers.</b></p> <p>POLICY NE1.1: Protect the natural role that environmental features provide to reduce stormwater runoff impacts, improve water quality, and enhance wildlife habitat by increasing and tracking the protections afforded during the development process.</p> <p><b>GOAL NE3: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA).</b></p> <p>POLICY NE3.1 Increase the amount of protected land in the County.</p>
<p>Focus conservation and restoration activities on priority areas, according to a strategic framework such as the Targeted Ecological Areas (TEAs) in GreenPrint (which is not to be confused with the former easement program also called GreenPrint).</p>	<p><b>GOAL NE3: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA).</b></p> <p>POLICY NE3.2 Continue expanding the network of protected corridors of woodlands and open space as set forth in the Greenways Master Plan.</p> <p>POLICY NE3.3 Preserve 80 percent of undeveloped land within the PPA through protective easements in order to meet the State's PPA protection goal.</p>
<p>Conserve and restore species of concern and important habitat types that may fall outside of designated green infrastructure (examples include: rock outcrops, karst systems, caves, shale barren communities, grasslands, shoreline beach and dune systems, mud flats, non-forested islands, etc.)</p>	<p><b>GOAL NE1: Preserve, enhance, and restore sensitive areas, including habitats of rare, threatened, and endangered species, streams, floodplains, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, bogs, shorelines, steep slopes, and all applicable buffers.</b></p> <p>POLICY NE1.2: Protect environmentally sensitive areas in the County's Critical Areas.</p> <p>POLICY NE1.3: Protect, enhance, and create living shorelines and nearshore habitat</p> <p>POLICY NE1.4: Protect unique environmental features and habitats including the Jabez Branch, Magothy Bog Complex, and other features or areas identified by the State or the County.</p>

STATE GOAL	PLAN2040 GOAL (bold) PLAN2040 POLICY
<p>Develop a more comprehensive inventory of natural resource lands and environmentally sensitive areas to assist state and local implementation programs.</p>	<p><b>GOAL NE3: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA).</b></p> <p>POLICY NE3.1 Increase the amount of protected land in the County.</p> <p>POLICY NE3.2 Continue expanding the network of protected corridors of woodlands and open space as set forth in the Greenways Master Plan.</p> <p><b>GOAL NE6: Create resilient, environmentally-sound and sustainable communities.</b></p> <p>POLICY NE6.1: Improve interdepartmental coordination to establish consistent environmental data in order to maximize the success of sustainable and resilient policies.</p> <p>POLICY NE6.2: Improve communications and outreach with County Residents to engage and educate regarding sustainable and resilient policies.</p>
<p>Establish measurable objectives for natural resource conservation and an integrated state/local strategy to achieve them through state and local implementation programs</p>	<p><b>GOAL NE3: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA).</b></p> <p>POLICY NE3.3 Preserve 80 percent of undeveloped land within the PPA through protective easements in order to meet the State's PPA protection goal.</p>
<p>Assess the combined ability of state and local programs to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand and connect forests, farmland and other natural lands as a network of contiguous green infrastructure;</li> <li>• Protect critical terrestrial and aquatic habitats, biological communities and populations;</li> <li>• Manage watersheds in ways that protect, conserve and restore stream corridors, riparian forest buffers, wetlands, floodplains and aquifer recharge areas and their associated hydrologic and water quality functions;</li> <li>• Adopt coordinated land and watershed management strategies that recognize the critical links between growth management and aquatic biodiversity and fisheries production; and</li> <li>• Support a productive forestland base and forest resource industry, emphasizing the economic viability of privately owned forestland.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GOAL NE2: Retain existing forest cover, increase forest replanting efforts, and increase urban tree canopy.</b></p> <p>POLICY NE2.1: Expand the amount of forest and tree canopy cover across all watersheds.</p> <p>POLICY NE2.2: Develop, establish and implement a Forestry Management Program</p> <p><b>GOAL NE3: Expand, enhance and continue to protect the County's greenways, open space, rural areas, including the Priority Preservation Area (PPA).</b></p> <p>POLICY NE3.2 Continue expanding the network of protected corridors of woodlands and open space as set forth in the Greenways Master Plan.</p>

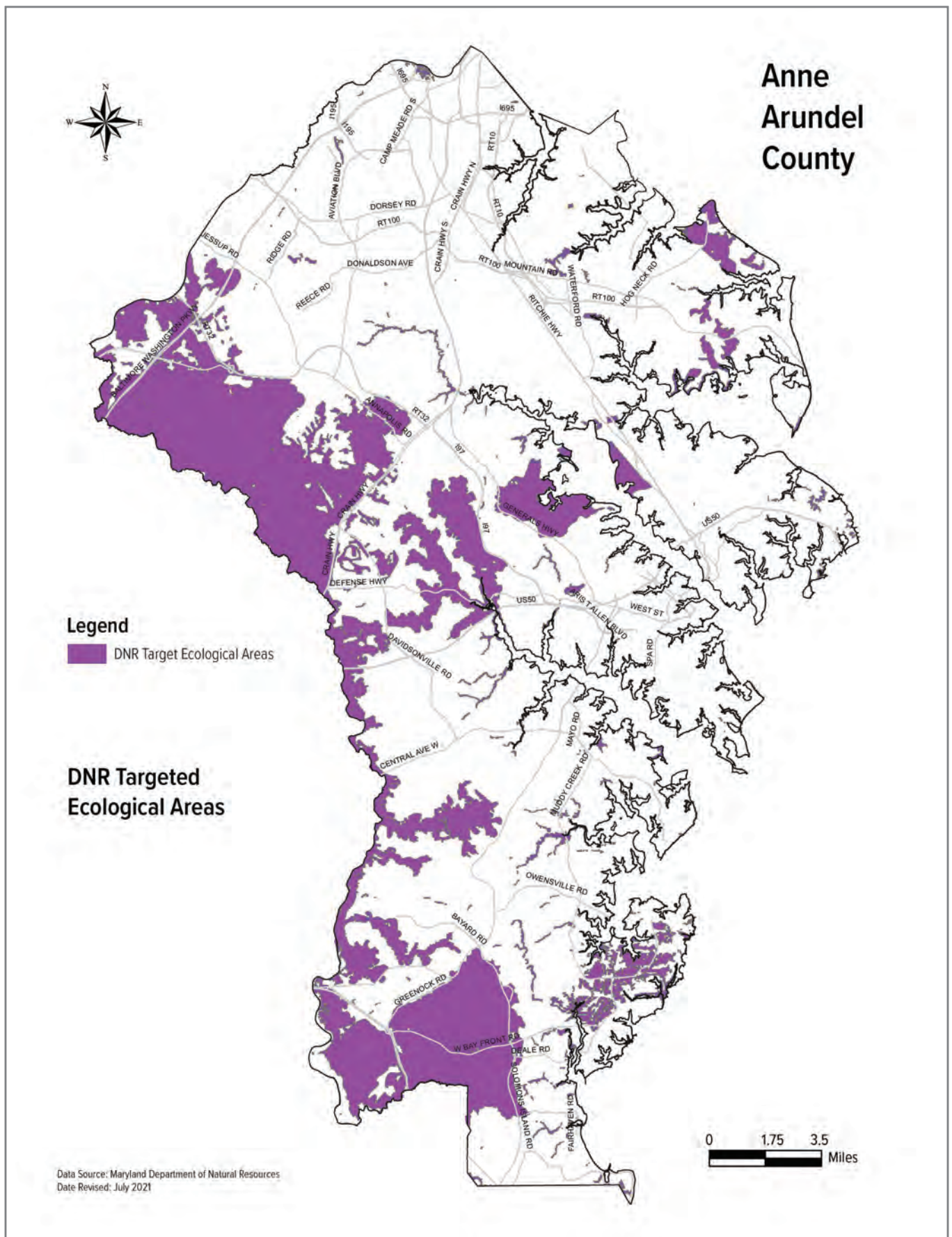


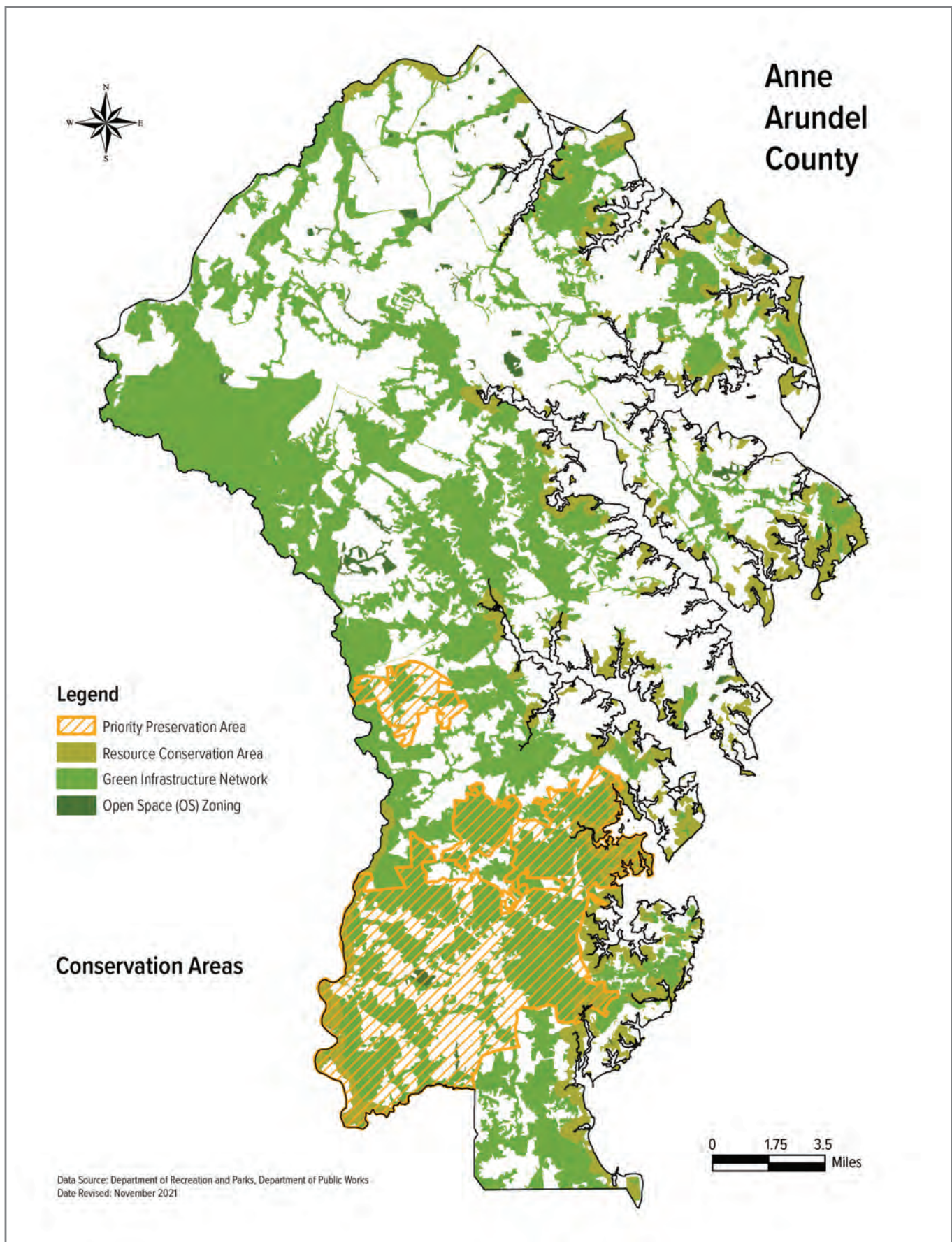
Map V-1: Green Infrastructure Network





Map V-2: State Targeted Ecological Areas







In addition, several of the County's regional parks have large natural areas in the RCA, including Downs Park, Quiet Waters Park, Fort Smallwood Park, and Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Park.

The state and federal governments also own land in the Critical Area, including Patapsco Valley State Park, the Eastern Ecological Science Center, and the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center.

## Comparison with State Targeted Ecological Areas

The State's Targeted Ecological Areas are preferred for Statewide Program Open Space funding based on their ecological value. Map V-2 shows these areas in Anne Arundel County. Map V-3 shows the County's designated conservation areas.

Map V-4 compares the State's Targeted Ecological Areas with the County's designated conservation areas. For ease of reading the map, the County's Greenways, Open Space Zoning, RCA, and Priority Preservation Area (PPA) are merged and shown in green. The state's Targeted Ecological Areas are in purple. Using GIS, the Targeted Ecological Areas are placed underneath the County's designated conservation areas so that the only purple areas showing on the map are those Targeted Ecological Areas that are not County designated conservation areas. There are 10 of these "mismatch" areas, as labeled on Map V-4.

The County's designated conservation areas are generally consistent with the State's GreenPrint conservation priorities, as evidenced by the small extent of mismatch areas on Map V-4. The justification for these mismatches is as follows:

- Area 1: Approximately half of this area is developed with rural residential lots. It is adjacent to but not part of the PPA.
- Area 2: This site contains an active sand and gravel operation.
- Area 3: This site contains several uses, including an active sand and gravel operation and a proposed rubble landfill.
- Area 4: This area has been subdivided as the Stonegate Forest subdivision.
- Area 5: These are isolated areas on the National Security Agency site, with little ecological value.
- Area 6: This area is mostly comprised of the Laurel Racing Association property and is of little ecological value.

- Area 7: This area is the site of Blobs Park and has an approved development plan.
- Area 8: This area is almost completely developed with only some fragmented open space or wooded corridors.
- Area 9: This area is developed residentially.
- Area 10: This area is almost completely developed with only some fragmented open space or wooded corridors.

## Protected Natural Resource Land

Approximately 48,865 acres of natural resource land in Anne Arundel County are protected through ownership, easement, open space zoning or bog protection zoning. This acreage is approximately 18 percent of the County's land area (see Table V-2 and Map V-5).

This LPPRP uses the word "protected" generally, to mean "protected from development". The County acknowledges that this does not always equate to natural resource protection; however, it is an appropriate proxy.

The County's Recreation and Open Space Inventory (see Appendix A) includes approximately 26,400 acres of natural resource land under ownership by federal, state, and local governments, approximately 9.9 percent of the County's land area. These lands are located in six general areas:

- Patuxent River Valley,
- Patapsco Valley State Park,
- Lake Shore,
- Severn Run,
- Crownsville, and
- South County

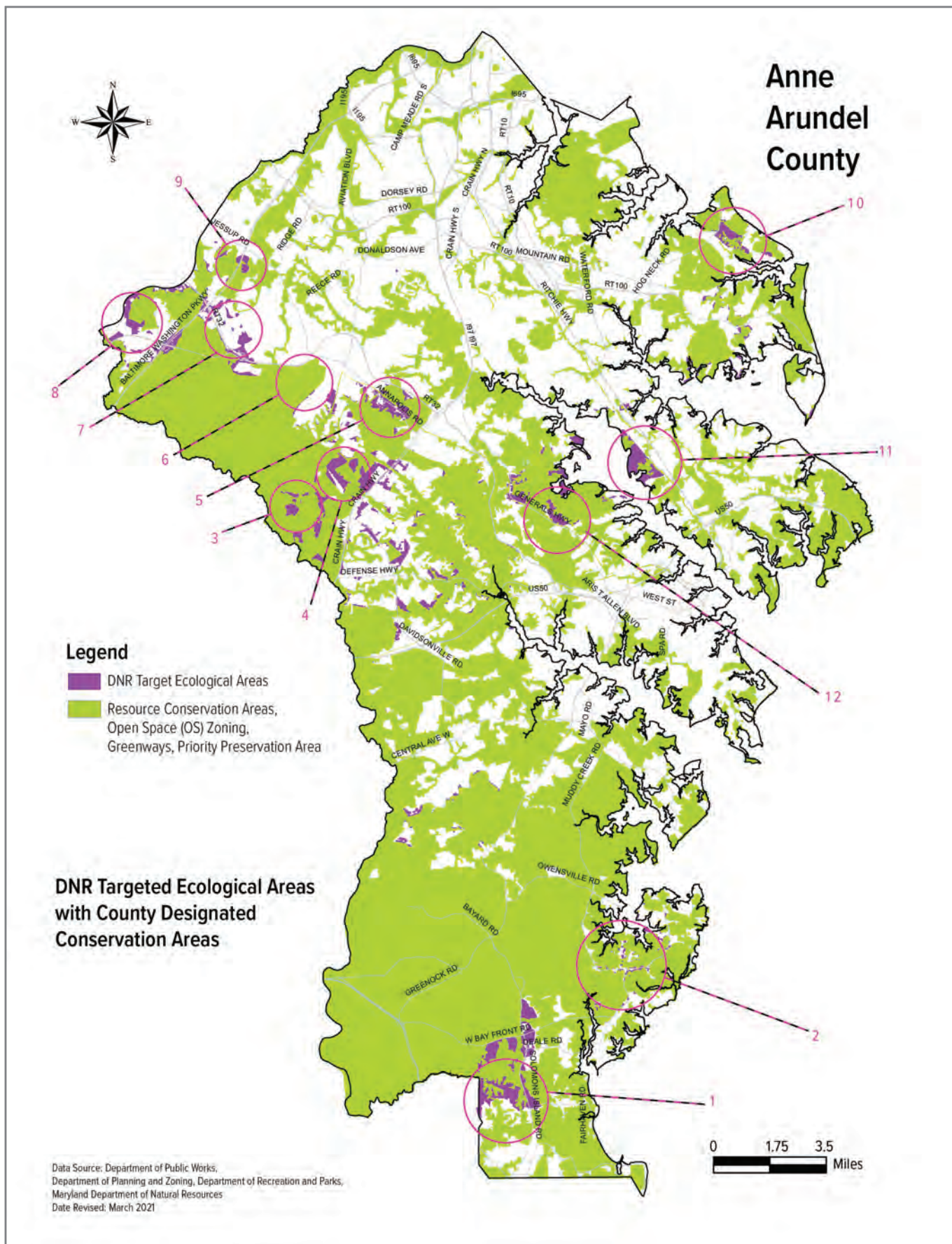
### *Patuxent River Valley*

Protected land along the Patuxent River includes the Eastern Ecological Science Center, formerly Patuxent Research Refuge, (8,846 acres in Anne Arundel County), Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary (452 acres), the US Air Force Globecom Wildlife Sanctuary (836 acres), and a number of parcels that have been acquired by Anne Arundel County as part of the Patuxent River Greenway.

The Eastern Ecological Science Center's mission is wildlife research, but it does offer public recreation on its north tract (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, trails, and many interpretive programs). The refuge's other two tracts are closed to the public except for the National Wildlife Visitor Center and associated trails in the south tract.

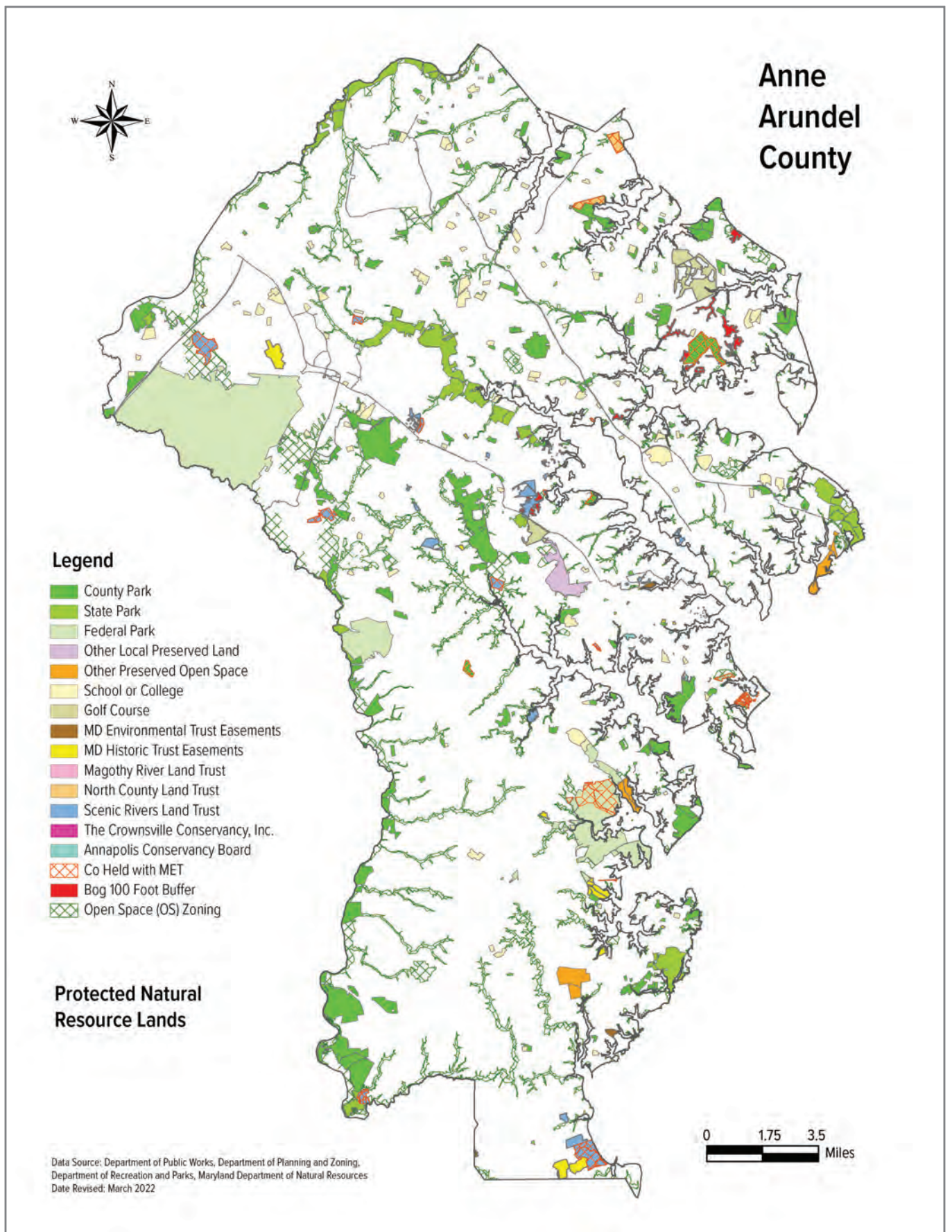


Map V-4: State Targeted Ecological Areas with County Designated Conservation Areas





Map V-5: Protected Natural Resource Land



The National Park Service owns and manages the 6.25-mile Baltimore-Washington Parkway and its associated forested buffer between the County line and MD 175.

In addition to being an important environmental preservation area, the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary is the County's premiere environmental education site. This extensive tidal wetland ecosystem is home to a diverse population of unique flora and fauna. Knowledgeable staff at the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary Visitor's Center provide guided tours of the Sanctuary by land and water, particularly to school groups. This facility exemplifies the State and County's partnership to implement the State's Children In Nature program.

### Patapsco Valley State Park

Public access to the Anne Arundel County portion of the park (979 acres) is less developed than the Baltimore or Howard County areas.

### Lake Shore

Protected lands in the Lake Shore area include the Magothy Greenway Natural Area, portions of Beachwood Park, Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Park, Downs Park, Fort Smallwood Park, Grays Creek Bog Natural Area, as well as several areas that are protected through the County's bog protection program.

### Severn Run

The State of Maryland owns a number of parcels that together form the Severn Run Natural Environment Area (approximately 1,760 acres total). The Scenic Rivers Land Trust also holds a number of conservation easements in this area.

### Crownsville

The South River Watershed is the most ecologically challenged watershed in the County. To protect the headwaters of the South River, the County has acquired some 1,124 acres of land, principally in the Bacon Ridge Natural Area. The City of Annapolis owns approximately 500 acres along Broad Creek north of Defense Highway. Waterworks Park comprises approximately 45 acres of this property.

### South County

In addition to the protected lands along the Patuxent River Valley, large protected natural resource areas in South County include the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (2,600 acres on the Rhode River), and DNR's Franklin Point preserve (484 acres).

Table V-2: **Protected Natural Resource Lands**

Category	Acres
Under Ownership <sup>1</sup>	
Anne Arundel County	10,803
City of Annapolis	471
State	2,871
Federal	12,289
Easements <sup>2</sup>	
Maryland Environmental Trust Co-held	3,111
Maryland Environmental Trust Solely-held	356
Maryland Historical Trust <sup>3</sup>	924
Zoning <sup>4</sup>	
Bog Protection Areas	866
Additional Land with Open Space Zoning <sup>5</sup>	17,174
Total	48,865

*Notes:*

(1) Includes 4,872 acres of private residential resource land, and 4,991 acres of park lands categorized as Resource Lands.

(2) To avoid double counting, Table V-2 does not include lands under easement by local land trusts and forest conservation easements. These lands have not all been mapped, although some of the acreage may already be included in the table under "Additional Land with Open Space Zoning".

(3) Source: Maryland State GIS.

(4) Includes 100-foot bog protection buffer.

(5) Excludes park land, land in agricultural easements, and other protected natural resource land. May include residential resource land.

Sources: Appendix A, Land Trusts; MHT; Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks

## Land Trusts and Easements

### Land Trusts

Land trusts in Anne Arundel County promote natural resource protection through conservation easements and occasional fee simple acquisition and foster an increased understanding and appreciation of natural resources.

The Maryland Environmental Trust (MET) holds approximately 50 easements on 3,467 acres throughout Anne Arundel County. Of these, approximately 3,110 acres are co-held with local land trusts, mostly with the Scenic Rivers Land Trust, and are included in the acreages in Table V-3.

Six local land trusts are active in the County. Combined they have protected approximately 4,238 acres in the County (Table V-3).

- The Annapolis Conservancy Board (ACB) is a municipally-run land trust that conserves environmentally sensitive lands within Annapolis city limits for recreational, cultural, and ecological benefit. Created by the City in 1988, the ACB holds 112 acres in 21 easements. (<https://www.annapolis.gov/530/Annapolis-Conservancy-Board>)

Table V-3: **Land Protected by Local Land Trusts**

Land Trust	Holding		Acres
	Co-held with MET	Sole	
Scenic Rivers Land Trust	2,527	650	3,177
Magothy River Land Trust	369	66	435
Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust	--	250	250
North County Land Trust	214	10	224
Annapolis Conservancy Board	--	112	112
The Crownsville Conservancy, Inc.	--	40	40
Total	3,111	1,128	4,238

Data source: Maryland State Department of Natural Resources

- The Scenic Rivers Land Trust (SRLT), formerly the Severn River Land Trust, was established in 1988, and is focused on the Severn, South, Patuxent, Rhode, and West River watersheds. As of 2021 it holds 3,217 acres in 70 easements, of which 2,177 acres in 35 easements are co-held with MET. ([www.srlt.org](http://www.srlt.org))
- The North County Land Trust (NCLT) was established in 1999 and focuses on land preservation and environmental stewardship in northern Anne Arundel County. As of 2021 the Trust held approximately 224 acres in five conservation easements, of which two are co-held with MET, covering 234 acres. ([www.ncltrust.org](http://www.ncltrust.org))
- The Magothy River Land Trust (MRLT)'s mission is to preserve the environment and protect land within the Magothy River watershed and has focused much of its efforts on promoting protection of the Magothy Bog complex. As of 2021, the MRLT protects approximately 445 acres. One of the easements covering 373 acres is co-held with MET. ([www.magothyriver.org](http://www.magothyriver.org))
- The Crownsville Conservancy, Inc. was founded in 2005, and focuses on preserving green space and wildlife habitat to create natural buffers to development to preserve the integrity of Herald Harbor, Arden, Valentine Creek, and the greater Chesapeake Bay region. As of 2021 it has over 300 small lots in the Crownsville area under protection through conservation easements and fee simple ownership. ([www.crownsvilleconservancy.org](http://www.crownsvilleconservancy.org))
- The Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust was formed in 1996, and is dedicated to the preservation of agricultural, forested, and open space land in southern Maryland. As of 2021, the trust holds easements two easements—a 250-acre easement co-owners with MET and SRLT, and a 117-acre farm on Queentree Road. (<https://ptlt.org/>)

In addition to the local organizations, the Conservation Fund, a national land conservation and environmental advocacy organization, protects two properties—a 324-acre property in Sandy Point State Park and a 30-acre property that is the Chesapeake Bay Foundation Headquarters.

### *Forestry and Forested Land Protection*

Anne Arundel County and the Chesapeake Bay Trust are in partnership to provide funds for forestry projects and land protection in Anne Arundel County. The goal of this program is to implement cost-effective reforestation and greening projects and increase the number of acres of protected forested land in the County. By increasing tree cover and expanding green areas, erosion can be reduced; water and soil quality can be improved; airborne pollutants such as particulates, nitrogen oxide, and carbon monoxide can be filtered; and summer temperatures and resulting ozone pollution and energy use can be reduced. By protecting forested land, valuable ecological services such as habitat, water quality, and flood control can be ensured for the future.

Land Trusts, land conservancies, faith-based organizations, community associations; service and civic groups, public agencies, public and independent higher educational institutions, and other 501(c)3 private nonprofit organizations (e.g., focused on a conservation) can apply for the funds.

### *Tax Credit Program*

Similar to the real property tax credit available to landowners who participate in the County or MALPF district or easement programs (see Chapter IV), the County offers a tax credit from County real property taxes that are “levied on conservation land that is used to assist in the preservation of a natural area, for the environmental education of the public, generally to promote conservation, or for the maintenance of a natural area for public use or a sanctuary for wildlife.”

The credit is granted annually as long as the property meets the definition of “conservation land” (Code 4.2.307).

### *Other Easements*

The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) helps preserve significant historical or architectural structures throughout Maryland. As of 2017, MHT held 48 easements, comprising approximately 907 acres in Anne Arundel County, and 26 easements, comprising 17 acres, within the City of Annapolis (including five acres at the Thomas Point Shoal Lighthouse).

The County holds many forest conservation easements that were created through forest conservation regulations. Mapping of forest conservation easements required as part



of the subdivision process is partially complete. Beginning in 2010, the County began requiring digital submittals of all record plats including forest conservation easements. Surveyed descriptions of forest conservation easements on plats back to 2005 are available. Significant work has been done to digitize these plats, but it is not completed.

A number of properties in the County participate in the state-federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). This program includes a 10- to 15-year commitment to abstain from development; however, none of the participating properties have sold permanent easements.

County regulations also require easement or dedicated of land within the FEMA 100-year floodplain during the subdivision process.

## **Watershed Management**

The Watershed Protection and Restoration Program within the Department of Public Works consists of three divisions, as described below.

### *Ecological Assessment and Evaluation Program*

The Ecological Assessment and Evaluation Program administers the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)—Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, the Town Center Surface Water Monitoring Program, and the County's Biological Monitoring Program. Staff provide interpretation and implementation of these programs as they relate to State and County law.

### *Restoration Program*

The Restoration Program uses a watershed-based approach to restoring degraded stream systems, to improve stream and wetland function, water quality, aquatic, and riparian habitat. This group is at the core of Anne Arundel County's program to meet Federal and State mandated pollutant load reductions required to achieve the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) including those local TMDLs established for Anne Arundel County's waterways, and impervious surface management requirements under Anne Arundel County's NPDES MS4 Permit. The Program focuses on three key areas to meet these requirements: Stormwater Management Facility Retrofits; Storm Drain Outfall Repairs; and Stream and Wetland Restoration.

### *Watershed Assessment and Planning Program*

The Watershed Assessment and Planning Program supplements water quality monitoring performed by the Ecological Assessment and Evaluation Program with additional stream and watershed baseline assessment

measurements, such as high resolution impervious and land cover datasets, urban stormwater information pertaining to treatment areas and performance measures, septic and stormwater infrastructure information, stream problem area inventory, and other assessment data.

Information is compiled and housed in the GIS interfaced Watershed Management Tool (WMT). The WMT consists of several components:

- A data repository;
- Engineering models used to evaluate existing and future conditions of hydrology, hydraulics, and water quality;
- A statistical model for performing analyses to identify watershed stressors and their relationship to select watershed health indicators; and
- A rating analysis for streams and subwatersheds aimed at prioritizing restoration and preservation actions.

## **Land Use Management Authority**

The County's land use management, zoning, and subdivision authority is a major component of its implementation program to achieve natural resource goals. As development occurs, these regulations help protect sensitive resource lands.

As discussed in Chapter IV, in 2005 the County adopted comprehensive changes to its zoning and subdivision codes. These included protective zoning in the RA zoning district that now permits residential subdivisions at density of no more than one dwelling unit per 20 acres.

Sensitive resources are further protected through a broad range of regulations and programs, including (citations are from the County Code):

- Floodplain management (Article 16, Title 2): Much of the Open Space-zoned land in the County is 100-year floodplain (see Map II–3 and Map V–3). Under the subdivision regulations (Article 17), if a subdivision contains 100-year floodplain that is not included in the subdivision open space, the developer must provide an easement to the County for access to and maintenance of the floodplain. For residential development, except in the RA district, the floodplain is given to the County in fee simple. Easements are provided in the RA, non-residential and mixed-use districts.
- Erosion and sediment control (Article 16, Title 3).
- Stormwater management (Article 16, Title 4).
- Zoning regulations (Article 18): Approximately 37,000 acres are zoned open space, with a very limited set of land uses permitted.

- Subdivision and development regulations (Article 17):
  - » Chesapeake Bay Critical Area overlay (Article 17, Title 8).
  - » Bog Protection Area Overlay (Article 17, Title 9): This set of regulations is somewhat unique to Anne Arundel County, and controls discharges and disturbance in bogs, contributing streams, and contributing drainage areas.
  - » Forest conservation (Article 17, Title 6, Subtitle 3).
  - » Non-tidal wetlands (Article 17, Title 6, Subtitle 4).
  - » Streams and stream buffers (Article 17, Title 6, Subtitle 4: Under the Stormwater Management Practices and Procedures Manual (updated February 2012) required buffers are based on stream order, with greater buffers required if floodplains, wetlands, or steep slopes extend beyond the buffer line. The minimum buffer width is 100-feet.
  - » Steep slopes (Article 17, Title 6, Subtitle 4).
- Habitats of Threatened and Endangered Species: As development occurs within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, rare and endangered species habitat is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The County defers to the requirements of State and Federal agencies.

## Capital Budget and Program Funding

The County's Capital Budget and Program contains a number of natural resource land-related projects and programs:

- Greenways, Park Land & Open Space (P400200): a \$3.77 million appropriation in FY 2022 and approximately \$2.77 million per year for FY 2023 to FY 2027. The County uses this fund to acquire land for greenways, protecting sensitive natural resources, providing additions to existing parks or trails and/or preservation needs.
- Shoreline erosion control for waterfront parks (P468700): approximately \$3.13 million for FY 2022 and an average of \$1.6 million per year from FY 2023 to FY 2027.

Funding for natural resources land conservation comes from a variety of sources, including County bonds, general funds, Program Open Space, state and federal grants, and developer contributions.

Table III–3 summarizes POS apportionments in the County over the past 10 years since 2012. Anne Arundel County has balanced spending on non-resource-based recreation, as described in Chapter III, with acquisition of natural resource-

based lands. These projects also contribute to the County's ecotourism development efforts.

Agricultural land preservation funds also serve to protect natural resource lands from development. As noted in Table IV–1, approximately 24 percent of land in farms is woodland. As discussed in Chapter IV, since 2000, the County committed more than \$27.8 million for its Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program, plus approximately \$4.7 million to the MALPF and Rural Legacy programs.

Some of the County's historic sites have strong natural resource land-related elements, and also contribute to the County's ecotourism development efforts.

## Other Regulatory or Management Programs

### *Chesapeake Bay TMDL*

On December 31, 2010, EPA promulgated a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. The TMDL is designed to ensure that all pollution control measures needed to fully restore the Bay watershed are in place by 2025. The TMDL is supported by rigorous accountability measures to ensure cleanup commitments are met, including short- and long-term benchmarks, a tracking and accountability system for jurisdiction activities, and federal contingency actions that can be employed if necessary to make progress. Watershed Implementation Plans (WIPs) detail how and when the Bay states and local governments will meet pollution allocations.

Maryland submitted its final Phase II WIP to USEPA in October 2012. It includes Anne Arundel County's final Phase II WIP (July 2012).

### *Patuxent River Policy Plan*

The County has been actively involved in watershed planning efforts for the Patuxent River. These efforts involve seven counties and many state and federal agencies, guided by the 1997 Patuxent River Policy Plan and overseen by the Patuxent River Commission. The goals of the Commission and Plan are to protect the river's resources through land management and pollution control strategies. The Commission continues to meet monthly and moved some of their meeting onto a virtual platform during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### *Patuxent River Greenway*

The Patuxent River Greenway is partially complete and will eventually connect land in portions of seven

Maryland counties. The greenway will connect a variety of environmentally sensitive areas including Oxbow Natural Area and Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, which is part of the National Estuarine Research Reserve system. The Patuxent River Greenway also promotes passive recreational and educational opportunities.

One property, a 17-acre parcel along the Little Patuxent South, has been added to the greenway since the 2017 LPPRP. Additional parcels of land are regularly presented and considered for addition to the greenway lands.

### *Severn River Commission*

The Severn River Commission is a quasi-governmental organization established in 1985 by Resolutions of the Anne Arundel County Council and the Annapolis City Council. The Commission, comprised of residents appointed by the local governments, acts as an advisory body to state and local government on environmental matters within the Severn River Watershed. The Commission meets monthly addressing questions relevant to private or administrative considerations and strives to achieve balance between governmental necessities and civic concerns.

### *Forestry Program*

Anne Arundel County's Forestry Program (housed within the Department of Inspections and Permits) administers the reforestation and afforestation requirements of the Critical Area Program, and the Maryland Forest Conservation Act. A component of this program is the coordination of voluntary reforestation projects with landowners and community associations. The County has a Forest Conservancy District Board that provides technical assistance to landowners who seek guidance in properly managing their woodland.

A timber harvest permit is required for any disturbance over 1,000 square feet inside the Critical Area, or 40,000 square feet outside the Critical Area. Commercial timbering is a small industry in Anne Arundel County, accounting for an average of eight harvest permit applications per year, totaling an average of 20 acres.

Most timber harvesting occurs in the southern portions of the County. The primary harvest type is a "selective harvest" that generally sets a minimum diameter of trees that may be cut. Yellow poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) is the dominant species harvested, along with red and white oak families (*Quercus* sp.). The value of the harvest is not known.

### *Emergent (Marsh) Grass Re-Vegetation Program*

Anne Arundel County provides wetland plants to communities and individuals for shoreline stabilization, beautification, habitat enhancement, and water quality improvement. The Department of Recreation and Parks produces plants for distribution at its wetlands nursery located at South River Farm Park.

### *Deer Management*

Anne Arundel County recognizes that a healthy, stable deer population is a valuable component of a balanced ecosystem. The County's management goals for its lands are to reduce deer-human conflicts, protect natural areas from negative impacts, and improve the overall health of the deer herd. Deer management in County parks is conducted through the Department of Recreation and Parks' Resource and Conservation Protection Division.

Currently this division manages the population via volunteer based managed hunts and also through a sharpshooting program in partnership with the Anne Arundel County Police Department. Both management efforts are fully vetted and have received approval from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

### *Invasive Species Management*

The Division of Natural and Cultural Resources is the Departmental lead on invasive species management, in partnership with other County agencies. The division's current focus is on a multi-year effort to eradicate non-native phragmites, a perennial, aggressive wetland grass that outcompetes native plants and displaces native animals. Started in 2019, this program seeks to mitigate the damage caused by phragmites in all active County parkland. Currently, herbicidal eradication efforts are occurring on 173 acres in 28 park properties.

### *Citizen Watershed Organizations*

The Magothy, Severn, and South Rivers have active resident river watch and watershed organizations. These largely volunteer associations actively promote responsible stewardship of their watershed and water resources. Other organizations include the South County Exchange and the Chesapeake Environmental Protection Association (CEPA). The South, Patuxent, Severn, and Rhode/West Rivers have river keepers affiliated with the Waterkeeper Alliance, a national grassroots organization. ([www.waterkeeper.org](http://www.waterkeeper.org)).



A bog committee coordinates with the State, County, and Federal programs as well as land trusts and other non-governmental organizations to maximize efforts and enhance cooperation in protecting the bogs.

### *Climate Resiliency*

DNR has recommended addressing climate resiliency by identifying areas vulnerable to inland flooding, minimizing impervious surface areas, and protecting and expanding stream buffers in these vulnerable areas. Planning for the enhanced protection and or restoration of public lands can ensure waterways have capacity to respond to flood events, including infrastructure such as culverts and road crossings.

Anne Arundel County's Sea Level Rise Strategic Plan assesses the County's vulnerability to sea level rise (including coastal flooding and other related hazards), including the area of developed land and extent of public infrastructure that could be affected under various sea level rise scenarios. That plan recommended that the LPPRP include coastal sites identified as high priorities for protection or preservation, as well as the prioritization of acquisition of those sites which are publicly-accessible and have recreational value, using POS funds. The LPPRP acquisition targets include shoreline properties. Existing regulations, such as the Critical Area Resource Conservation Area designations also reduce the amount of development possible in areas potentially subject to inundation.

### Acquisition of Flood Prone Properties

In the fall of 2020, Anne Arundel County and the Chesapeake Bay Trust made \$500,000 available for a pilot grant program to buy properties frequently flooded by nontidal or stormwater flooding. Increasingly intense rainfall events, combined with a changing climate and historical infrastructure constraints and development patterns, have left some properties within the County at continued risk of nontidal flooding. The grant program gives willing landowners an option to sell flood prone properties to the County. It also provides natural resource protection, stormwater storage, and mitigation of flood risk to surrounding communities.

## **Ecotourism and Resource-Based Recreation**

Anne Arundel County offers a number of opportunities for resource-based recreation.

Parks and recreation areas offering resource-based recreation and/or environmental education include as the County's staffed regional parks (Quiet Waters, Downs, Lake Waterford,

Kinder Farm Park, Mayo Beach, and Fort Smallwood Park), as well as Bacon Ridge Natural Area, Eastern Ecological Science Center, Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, Patuxent Wetlands Park, and Back Creek Nature Park in Annapolis.

Kinder Farm Park has developed an agricultural history program and working farm to show past and present agricultural practices of Anne Arundel County.

Anne Arundel County's growing trail system is another important form of resource-based recreation. Several long-distance trails, such as the B&A Trail and the BWI Trail, as well as shorter trails in County and State Parks, offer signage and visitors' centers to help interpret the local resources. Many of these trails are part of the East Coast Greenway trails system. The development of a 15+ mile natural surface trail system in the Bacon Ridge Natural has created additional opportunities for hikers and mountain bikers.

Developed or partially developed historic parks and sites include historic London Town House and Gardens, Hancock's Resolution, as well as many sites in and around the City of Annapolis and Highland Beach. The Hancock's Resolution Visitor Center, a modern visitor center and pavilion, supports weddings, business meetings, family events, as well as school and group tours.

The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (SSBNHT) was designated by Congress in 2008. Managed by the National Park Service, the Trail commemorates the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812, including the British invasion of Washington, DC, and the Battle of Baltimore in summer 1814. The Trail has land and water components that knit together historic resources throughout the Chesapeake Bay region in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. In Anne Arundel County, Annapolis and Bodkin Point (near Hancock's Resolution) are official trail sites.

Much of the County's resource-based recreation is water-based. As noted in Chapter III, the County offers many opportunities for water-based recreation including boating, paddling, fishing, and water viewing. The Patuxent River Commission has worked with others to create a paddling trail along the Patuxent River (<http://www.patuxentwatertrail.org/>). The water portions of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail in Anne Arundel County include a trail segment on the Severn River.

The Annapolis, London Town, and South County Heritage Area was certified by the State in 2001. The heritage area was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2003 and is now referred to as the Four Rivers Heritage Area. (<http://>

[www.fourriversheritage.org/](http://www.fourriversheritage.org/)). Its management entity, the Coordinating Council, consists of 19 representatives of civic, non-profit, business, and governmental partners, and actively promotes regional cooperation, heritage tourism development, and resource preservation in accordance with the state, county and city approved Management Plan adopted in 2000. One of the plan's strategies for enhancing heritage resources is to "Enhance parks, recreational facilities, and other public lands to interpret natural and cultural heritage".

## Use of resource data and inventories

The County's Office of Information Technology, Geographic Information Services (OIT GIS) is responsible for the dissemination of geographic information. Interactive mapping and geographic information for Anne Arundel County is available from the County's website (<http://www.aacounty.org/county-maps/>). The site allows users to view or print topographic maps, satellite imagery, aerial photography, water and sewer lines, fire hydrants and manholes, as-built engineering record drawings for water, sewer, stormwater and roads, and survey monuments and reports.

In May 2021, the County released a new countywide mapping application, My Anne Arundel, which will allow residents to view and interact with a variety of county datasets, including capital improvement projects, planning and zoning, and transportation.

The new tool, which can be found at [aacounty.org/myannearundel](http://aacounty.org/myannearundel), allows users to select layers of information from public datasets, and map and run reports on specific areas of the County. The Office of Information Technology's team rolled out the new tool to equip residents with better access to easy-to-use mapping software.

The County shares data, methods, analyses, and results with a variety of agencies, including the Chesapeake Bay Program Office, state agencies (especially the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)) as it relates to the County's MS-4 NPDES permit requirements and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), as well as other local jurisdictions, community associations, and scientists. Watershed data are also posted on the County's web site at <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/public-works/wprp/>.

## City of Annapolis Initiatives

As part of its current Comprehensive Plan update, the City has developed a Greenways Map that identifies and prioritizes future conservation efforts to achieve a variety of goals ranging from habitat protection to stormwater

management, to recreational opportunities. The map is also being coordinated with Anne Arundel County's updated Green Infrastructure Master Plan. Priorities for Annapolis include obtaining conservation easements to connect existing environmental areas, creating and maintaining wildlife corridors, and expanding the City's tree canopy. Specifically, the City has committed to the following goals, policies, and actions within its boundaries:

- Utilize the City's new Greenway Map to prioritize future conservation efforts in coordination with the recreation and parks system, new development, and Anne Arundel County's updated Green Infrastructure Master Plan.
- Support Anne Arundel County's efforts to expand greenway connections adjacent to the City particularly along Weems Creek, Church Creek, and Broad Creek.
- The Annapolis Conservancy Board will pursue opportunities to connect its 21 existing conservation easement properties, including working with the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC), to protect and enlarge orchid habitat in conjunction with the existing North American Orchid Conservation Center, based at SERC.
- The City will continue to seek to increase its tree canopy from 41 percent (as measured by Maryland DNR in 2006) to the City's Comprehensive Plan goal of 50 percent coverage by 2036.
- The City will consider purchase of forested properties within the City along Forest Drive (specifically, near Bembe Beach Road and Edgewood Road) be considered for purchase to remain as natural habitat, in keeping with open space and tree canopy goals.

The City will continue to support GreenScape, a city and community partnership facilitating investment in public spaces through including beautification, landscaping to filter groundwater, new canopy, pedestrian amenities, access to recreation areas, and reclamation of old stream beds.

## Summary of Deficiencies and Recommendations

There are no specific deficiencies regarding protecting natural resource lands identified in this Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan.

The 2017 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan listed priorities for land acquisition that included an overall goal of 1,065 acres, with 750 acres needed to address local or State objectives for greenways and open spaces by 2027.

As this 2022 Plan notes in Chapter 3, the County has already acquired 650 acres of the 750-acre goal. An equity analysis performed as part of the 2017 LPPRP identified a need for expanded recreational lands in the County's northern and southern quadrants, which have been fulfilled in part, and similar priorities are included in the 2022 LPPRP.

The County has conserved approximately 1,800 acres of parkland through fee simple acquisition from 2010 through 2020. With financial support from State and Federal grants, over \$40 million were invested to acquire those lands. Private property owners have agreed to conservation easements to protect privately-owned land as well. From 2010 to 2020, the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation program (discussed further in Chapter 4) has entered into conservation easements with property owners to keep approximately 2,409 acres of land in agricultural and forestry use. In the same period, private land trusts including the Scenic Rivers Land Trust, Magothy River Land Trust, and Crownsville Conservancy worked with property owners to enroll approximately 1,447 acres of land into conservation easement. Overall, Anne Arundel County has added some 1,300 acres of protected natural resources land since the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

The County's goals and policies are to continue to identify candidate properties, seek funding and effort to continually expand the amount of protected land. As part of the development of the Green Infrastructure Plan, Anne Arundel County has set a goal of conserving an additional 5,000 acres by the end of 2030.

While the County's Green Infrastructure Master Plan focuses on protection of the largest remaining natural areas and connections between them, it also recognizes the need to conserve smaller open spaces across the County. This LPPRP includes an analysis of the need for additional parks and recreation facilities across the County, nearly all of which will contribute to protecting natural resource lands.

DRP evaluates potential land acquisitions based on recreational and preservation benefits. The evaluation considers proximity to other County recreational opportunities, ability to develop, and proximity to conserved areas. The Department uses the following criteria in evaluating land acquisitions that contribute to meeting the County's goals for conservation and protection:

- Ecological sensitivity
- Passive or active recreational benefit
- Connectivity to conserved greenways or other conservation lands

- Consistency with Plan2040, Region Plans, Green Infrastructure Master Plan, and LPPRP (including findings from the proximity and equity analyses)
- Size of the property
- Community interest
- Purchase price
- Ecosystem service value
- Other subjective benefits

The County has been able to meet its goals for protecting agricultural, natural resource and open space lands by meeting several challenges. The Department must continue to respond and overcome those challenges to meet the goals it has established, including:

- Coordination - While the Department of Recreation and Parks is but one of multiple organizations proactively working with landowners to conserve property, there is a need for better coordination of resources to match the right protection and conservation programs with the right properties.
- Outreach - Time and other resources are needed to build relationships and trust with landowners. It is challenging to identify those owners that are willing to put land into conservation.
- Funding - The amount of funding and the flexibility in use of those funds is a critical limiting factor to acquiring natural resource land and/or executing conservation easements. The timing of funding availability is also a challenge since all real estate deals have a limited window of opportunity.
- Land Cost - The cost of land in Anne Arundel County continues to escalate. Land costs in the County are higher relative to the Eastern Shore and Western Maryland. This limits how far land conservation funds can go and can be a challenge in competing for State and Federal grants on a dollars per acre basis.
- Public Support - There is a need for tremendous public support when it comes to dedicating public funds for land conservation. As noted in Chapter 3 and in Appendix C herein, the public survey conducted by Recreation and Parks showed significant public support for investing public funds to purchase or acquire additional land for future recreation and park facilities, for natural resources land and for open land for preservation.



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## **Appendix A. Recreation and Open Space Sites Inventory**

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Acton Landing Park	0.5				0.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Amos Garrett Park	0.3				0.3	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Andover Equestrian Center	17.6				17.6	Council District 1	County								
Andover Park	23.6				23.6	Council District 1	County	4	2	6	1		1		
Andy Smith Equestrian Center	9.5				9.5	Council District 5	County								
Annapolis ES	1.6				1.6	Council District 6	BOE							1	1
Annapolis HS	47.6				47.6	Council District 6	BOE	2		2	3	5	8	1	1
Annapolis Maritime Museum	0.5				0.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Annapolis MS	23.9				23.9	Council District 6	BOE					5	5	1	
Annapolis Rec Center	1.5				1.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Annapolis Sports Complex	35.0				35.0	Council District 6	BOE		2	2		5	5		1
Annapolis Walk Community Park	3.0				3.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Anne Arundel County Fair Site				74.0	74.0	Council District 6	State								
Arden on the Severn Park	14.1				14.1	Council District 4	County	4		4	1	3	4		
Arnold ES	8.5				8.5	Council District 5	BOE					1	1	1	
Arnold Park	19.2				19.2	Council District 5	County	1	4	5	1		1		
Arundel Hills Park	12.4				12.4	Council District 1	County								1
Arundel HS	75.6				75.6	Council District 4	BOE		3	3	1	2	3	1	
Arundel MS	-				-	Council District 4	BOE		1	1		2	2	1	1
Arundel Olympic Swim Center	5.0				5.0	Council District 6	BOE								
B and A Trail	146.5				146.5	Council District 5	County								
Bachman Sports Complex	86.4				86.4	Council District 1	County	7		7	1		1		
Bacon Ridge Natural Area in the SRG		1,124.3			1,124.3	Council District 4	County								
Bacontown Park	6.5				6.5	Council District 4	County		1	1					2
Barbara Neustadt Park	0.2				0.2	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Bates Athletic Complex	15.0				15.0	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1		4	4		
Bates MS	20.5				20.5	Council District 6	BOE		1	1				1	
Bay Head Park	39.2				39.2	Council District 5	County				3		3		
Bay Meadows Park	0.8				0.8	Council District 1	County								
Beachwood Park	71.7				71.7	Council District 3	County								
Bell Branch Park	80.5				80.5	Council District 7	County	2	1	3	2	3	5		
Belle Grove ES	4.5				4.5	Council District 1	BOE		1	1		1	1	1	1
Belvedere ES	8.7				8.7	Council District 5	BOE		1	1		1	1	1	
Belvedere Park	5.4				5.4	Council District 5	County		5	5					
Bembe Beach Marina site	1.2				1.2	Council District 6	Annapolis								



Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
															1									
																		1					1	
																		1					1	
	2																					1		
	2				10													2					4	
															1									
	1																							
	1																					1		
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	1																							
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											2							2	1			1		
																							12	
	2		1		1								1									1	1	
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	2																					2		
	1																					1		

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Benfield ES	10.7				10.7	Council District 5	BOE					1	1	1	
Bestgate Park	10.0				10.0	Council District 6	County	1	1						2
Beverly Beach Wharf	0.1				0.1	Council District 7	County								
Beverly Triton Nature Park	342.3				342.3	Council District 7	County								
Bodkin ES	-				-	Council District 3	BOE				1		1	1	
Bodkin Park	19.7				19.7	Council District 3	County	2	3	5	1		1		1
Brewer Pond Natural Area		50.3			50.3	Council District 6	County								
Broad Creek Park		91.2			91.2	Council District 6	County								
Broadneck ES	65.8				65.8	Council District 5	BOE					2	2	1	2
Broadneck HS	37.2				37.2	Council District 5	BOE		3	3	2	3	5	2	
Broadneck Park	44.1				44.1	Council District 5	County		3	3	2	1	3		
Broadneck Peninsula Trail	9.1				9.1	Council District 5	County								
Brock Bridge ES	12.0				12.0	Council District 4	BOE		3	3		1	1	1	
Brooklyn Heights Park	21.3				21.3	Council District 1	County		2	2		1	1		1
Brooklyn Park ES	7.4				7.4	Council District 1	BOE							1	
Brooklyn Park I	14.6				14.6	Council District 1	County	2	3	5	1		1		
Brooklyn Park MS	26.7				26.7	Council District 1	BOE		3	3		1	1	1	2
Browns Woods Park	2.9				2.9	Council District 5	County		1	1					1
Burnside Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
BWI Trail			16.0		16.0	Council District 2	State								
Bywater Park	2.0				2.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Cabin Branch Park		33.6			33.6	Council District 1	County								
Cannon Stadium	22.3				22.3	Council District 1	County	1		1					
Cape St. Claire ES	18.0				18.0	Council District 5	BOE					3	3	1	
Cape St. Claire Park	18.4				18.4	Council District 5	County	3	3	6	1		1		2
Carrie Weedon Science Center	5.4				5.4	Council District 7	BOE		4	4		1	1	1	
Carrs Wharf	0.7				0.7	Council District 7	County								
Cattail Creek Natural Area		23.8			23.8	Council District 5	County								
Cedar Morris Hill Park	7.1				7.1	Council District 1	County		1	1					1
Central Avenue Park	30.5				30.5	Council District 7	County								
Central ES	-				-	Council District 7	BOE		2	2		1	1	1	
Central MS	-				-	Council District 7	BOE					1	1	1	3
Central Special School	-				-	Council District 7	BOE					1	1	1	
Chesapeake Bay MS (see also Bodkin ES and CB HS)	-				-	Council District 3	BOE					2	2	2	6
Chesapeake HS (see also Bodkin ES and CB MS)	132.3				132.3	Council District 3	BOE		2	2	1	3	4	1	

	Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
		1																					1		
		2		2		2		4		4									2				1		
																1							1	5	
		1																					1		
		1																	4				1		
																								2	
		3																					1		
		2				8																	1		
																	2		1	1			1	1	
																								2	
		1																					1		
		1												1									1	1	
		1																					1		
																				1				1	
		3				4																	1		
		1																	1				1		
																							1	13	
																							1		
																								1	
																			1	1					
		1																					2		
		2																							
		1				2		4		4															
																1									
	1	2		2	2	4						1								1			1	1	
		1																					3		
		4																							
		1																							
		8																							
		1				8																			

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Commodore John Barry Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Compass Pointe Golf Course	736.3				736.3	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Cool Pond Park		24.0			24.0	Council District 3	County	2	2						
Corkran MS	18.7				18.7	Council District 5	County	7	7		1	1	1	1	2
Crofton ES	9.8				9.8	Council District 2	BOE	2	2		2	2	1	1	
Crofton Fields at MAC Church	8.9				8.9	Council District 7	BOE	1	1		3	3			
Crofton HS	123.0				123.0	Council District 7	Subdivision Open Space	1	9	10	1	5	6	1	
Crofton Meadows ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 7	BOE	3	3		1	1	1		
Crofton MS	20.0				20.0	Council District 7	BOE	2	2	3		3	1	2	
Crofton Natural Area		8.8			8.8	Council District 7	BOE								
Crofton Park	25.0				25.0	Council District 7	County								
Crofton Woods ES	8.7				8.7	Council District 7	BOE	3	3		1	1	1		
Cross Street Park	15.7				15.7	Council District 7	BOE								2
Crownsville Hospital Ball Fields			4.0		4.0	Council District 1	County	2	2						
Cypress Creek Park	13.9				13.9	Council District 6	State	3	3		1	1			1
Dairy Farm	856.6				856.6	Council District 5	County								
Davidsonville ES	10.6				10.6	Council District 4	County	2	2		1	1	1	1	
Davidsonville Family Recreation Center	15.9				15.9	Council District 7	BOE				1	1			
Davidsonville Park	127.8				127.8	Council District 7	County	1	2	3	6	1	7		
Davis Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 7	County								
Deale Community Park	12.7				12.7	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Deale ES	10.5				10.5	Council District 7	County	4	4		1	1	1		
Deale Library Tennis Courts	0.6				0.6	Council District 7	BOE								
Deale Traceys Park	21.7				21.7	Council District 7	County	2	2	1		1			
Deale Wharf	0.0				0.0	Council District 7	County								
Deep Cove Natural Area	191.3				191.3	Council District 7	County								
Discovery Village Park	6.8				6.8	Council District 7	County								
Downs Memorial Park	242.3				242.3	Council District 7	Subdivision Open Space								3
Eastport ES	1.8				1.8	Council District 3	County	1	1		1	1	1	3	
Edgewater ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 6	BOE	1	1					1	
Edgewater Park	17.6				17.6	Council District 7	BOE	1	3	4	1	1	2		
Eisenhower Golf Course	200.1				200.1	Council District 7	County								
Elizabeth Dixon Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	County								
Elizabeth Road Park	0.7				0.7	Council District 7	County								



Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
																	1							
																							12	
	3				2																			
	2				1																	1		
																			1					
	1				8																	1		
	1																					1		
	3				4																			
																		4	1			3	1	
	1																					1	1	
	2																	1	1			1		
1	2		3	3	6		3		3	1									1					
																		1	1					
	2																					1		
																			1			1		
															1				1			1		
																							2	
	1																					1		
			2		2																			
																		1						
														1	1									
	3									4	4				2			16	8			1		
	4																					1	9	
	1																					1		
																			1					
																	1	1					1	
																		1					5	

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Ellen O. Moyer Nature Park at Back Creek	12.0				12.0	Council District 2	County								
Elvaton Park	31.9				31.9	Council District 6	Annapolis	5	5		1	1			
Emory Waters Nature Preserve	307.3				307.3	Council District 5	County								
Ferndale Early Education Center	1.2				1.2	Council District 7	County				1	1			
Fifth Street & Spa Creek	0.1				0.1	Council District 1	BOE								
First & Spa Creek	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Fleet Street Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Folger McKinsey ES	9.4				9.4	Council District 6	Annapolis				2	2	1		
Fort Smallwood ES	35.2				35.2	Council District 5	BOE							1	
Fort Smallwood Park	110.7				110.7	Council District 3	BOE								1
Four Seasons ES	12.0				12.0	Council District 3	County				1	1	1		
Fourth Street Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 4	BOE								
Franklin Point State Park				484.0	484.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Frederick Douglass House		0.2			0.2	Council District 7	State								
Freetown ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 7	Town of Highland Beach	1	1		2	2	1	1	
Freetown Park	22.7				22.7	Council District 2	BOE	1	1		1	1			1
Friendship Pond Park		7.0			7.0	Council District 3	County								
Galesville Park	7.1				7.1	Council District 7	County				1	1			
Galesville Wharf	0.8				0.8	Council District 7	County								
Generals Highway Corridor Park	99.6				99.6	Council District 7	County	1	3	4	1	1	2		
George Cromwell ES	9.9				9.9	Council District 6	County		2	2		1	1	1	
George Fox MS	17.6				17.6	Council District 1	BOE		5	5		1	1	1	
George Washington Davis Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 3	BOE								
Georgetown East ES	6.3				6.3	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1		3	3	1	1
Germantown ES	21.6				21.6	Council District 6	BOE		1	1				1	2
Glen Burnie HS	17.9				17.9	Council District 6	BOE		2	2	2		2	2	2
Glen Burnie Park (Area Civic Assoc.)	5.5				5.5	Council District 2	BOE		1	1					1
Glen Burnie Park ES	13.3				13.3	Council District 2	Subdivision Open Space								
Glen Burnie Town Center Ice Rink	0.1				0.1	Council District 4	BOE								
Glendale ES	8.7				8.7	Council District 2	County		1	1				1	
Glendening Nature Preserve		617.5			617.5	Council District 2	BOE								
Globe Comm WMA				207.0	207.0	Council District 7	County								
Grays Creek Bog Natural Area		19.4			19.4	Council District 7	State								
Green Haven Park	0.4				0.4	Council District 3	County								

Anne Arundel County Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan | Recreation and Open Space Sites Inventory

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Green Haven Wharf	0.2				0.2	Council District 3	County								
Gresham Historic House	5.0				5.0	Council District 3	County								
Hammonds Park	5.6				5.6	Council District 7	County								1
Hancocks Resolution	26.2				26.2	Council District 1	County								
Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Park	236.5				236.5	Council District 3	County								
Havenwood Park	6.0				6.0	Council District 3	County		4	4					
Hebron-Harman ES	11.3				11.3	Council District 3	County		1	1				1	1
Helen Avalynne Tawes Garden				5.0	5.0	Council District 1	BOE								
Herald Harbor Park	2.0				2.0	Council District 6	State								1
High Point ES	4.4				4.4	Council District 4	County					1	1	1	
High Point Park	2.8				2.8	Council District 3	BOE								2
Hillsmere ES	9.5				9.5	Council District 3	County		1	1		2	2	1	
Hilltop ES	-				-	Council District 6	BOE							1	
Homeport Farm Park		25.2			25.2	Council District 1	BOE								
Horn Point	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	County								
Hot Sox Field at Wilson Park	26.5				26.5	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1					
House Creek NRMA				248.0	248.0	Council District 7	County								
J. Albert Adams Academy (Learning Center)	5.9				5.9	Council District 7	State							1	
J. Charles Linthicum Memorial Park	1.5				1.5	Council District 6	BOE								
Jack Creek Park		57.7			57.7	Council District 1	State								
Jacobsville ES	10.5				10.5	Council District 7	County		2	2				1	
Jacobsville Park	15.5				15.5	Council District 3	BOE		3	3					2
Jeremy's Way	0.1				0.1	Council District 3	County								
Jessup Dorsey Park	21.4				21.4	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1					2
Jessup ES	19.1				19.1	Council District 1	County		1	1		1	1	1	1
Jessup Park	6.3				6.3	Council District 1	BOE		2	2		1	1		
Jonas and Anne Catharine Green Park	7.9				7.9	Council District 1	County								
Jones ES	5.2				5.2	Council District 5	County		1	1		1	1	1	
Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary		451.6			451.6	Council District 5	BOE								
Kinder Farm Park	290.2				290.2	Council District 7	County	3	1	4	4	2	6		2
Kings Branch Flat Creek Greenway Natural Area		56.6			56.6	Council District 5	County								
Kings Branch Park	12.8				12.8	Council District 7	County		2	2		1	1		
Kingsport Recreation Area	2.0				2.0	Council District 7	County								
Lafayette Park Lafayette Avenue & Spa Creek	0.2				0.2	Council District 6	Annapolis								



Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
															1				1					
	1																		1			1		
																							1	
	2																	1				1		
	1		2		2													1				1		
	1																					1		
	2																							
	1																					1		
	1																					1		
															1									
	1																					1		
															1								1	2
	2		2		2		1		1													1		
	2		2		2													1	1			1	1	
	2																					1		
							4		4										1			1		
															1			4						
	1																					1		
	2																	5	1					
																		15	2			2	7	
																							7	
																		1					2	
																							1	

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Lake Shore Athletic Complex	159.1				159.1	Council District 6	Annapolis	2	10	12	3	1	4		2
Lake Shore ES	9.8				9.8	Council District 3	County		2	2				1	2
Lake Waterford Park	116.7				116.7	Council District 3	BOE		1	1	1	1	2		2
Leon Wolfe Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 3	County								
Lindale MS	23.1				23.1	Council District 6	Annapolis		2	2		1	1	1	2
Linthicum ES	5.1				5.1	Council District 1	BOE		2	2		1	1	1	
Linthicum Park	10.4				10.4	Council District 1	BOE		2	2					
Linthicum Walks	5.2				5.2	Council District 1	County								
Little Patuxent Oxbow WMA				50.0	50.0	Council District 7	County								
Loch Haven Park	30.7				30.7	Council District 4	State		3	3	1		1		1
London Town House and Gardens	21.9				21.9	Council District 7	County								
Longhill Fire Tower				5.0	5.0	Council District 7	County								
Loopers Field	20.0				20.0	Council District 3	State				2		2		
Lothian ES	12.9				12.9	Council District 3	County					2	2	2	
MacArthur MS	24.2				24.2	Council District 7	BOE		1	1				1	
Mago Vista Park	10.0				10.0	Council District 4	BOE		1	1		1	1		1
Magothy Greenway Natural Area		369.0			369.0	Council District 5	County								
Magothy River MS	23.1				23.1	Council District 3	County					2	2	1	3
Manor View ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 5	BOE							1	
Marley Creek Park	71.8				71.8	Council District 4	BOE								
Marley ES	10.1				10.1	Council District 2	County		1	1		1	1	1	1
Marley Glen Special School	-				-	Council District 2	BOE							1	1
Marley MS	24.4				24.4	Council District 2	BOE		2	2	2		2	1	1
Marley Neck Trail	0.6				0.6	Council District 2	BOE								
Maryland City ES	5.3				5.3	Council District 3	County					1	1	1	
Maryland City Park	188.3				188.3	Council District 4	BOE	1	2	3	1	1	2		
Matthewstown Harmans Park	15.0				15.0	Council District 4	County					1	1		1
Mayo Beach Park	25.7				25.7	Council District 1	County								
Mayo ES	4.4				4.4	Council District 7	County							1	
Meade Heights ES	6.6				6.6	Council District 7	BOE		1	1		1	1	1	1
Meade HS	30.0				30.0	Council District 4	BOE		2	2	1	2	3	1	1
Meade MS	30.0				30.0	Council District 4	BOE					1	1	1	
Meade Village Park	15.7				15.7	Council District 4	BOE		1	1		1	1		4
Millersville ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 1	County							1	1
Millersville Park	33.1				33.1	Council District 4	BOE								

	Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
		2										1							2				1		
		3																					2	4	
	2	4		3	3	6		2		2									16	3			1		
																								3	
		3																							
		1																					1		
				2		2													2				1		
																		1							
		1															2		1				1		
																			5						
																								1	
		2																					1		
		1				2																			
		1		2		2		6		6										2			1		
																								1	
		4				4																		6	
		1																					2		
		2																					2		
		2																					1		
		2				3																			
		1																					1	1	
																	1		3				1		
		1		2		2														3			4	2	
																1			4				2	1	
		1																					2		
		2																					1		
		2																							
		1				5																			
		4									2								3	1					
		2																					1		

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Monticello Avenue	0.2				0.2	Council District 4	County								
Nantucket ES	5.6				5.6	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1		2	2	1	1
National Business Parkway			79.0		79.0	Council District 7	BOE								
Nature Preserve at Waysons Corner		30.8			30.8	Council District 4	State								
Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium Trail	7.0				7.0	Council District 7	County								
Newman Street Playground	0.5				0.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								
North Arundel Aquatic Center	25.5				25.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								
North Beach	1.0				1.0	Council District 2	County								
North County HS	41.0				41.0	Council District 7	Town of Highland Beach		4	4	1	2	3	1	
North County Recreation Center	0.0				0.0	Council District 1	BOE								
North Glen ES	9.0				9.0	Council District 1	BOE		2	2				1	1
North Glen Park	41.0				41.0	Council District 1	BOE	1	2	3	1		1		3
Northeast HS	21.0				21.0	Council District 1	County		2	2	1		1	3	2
Northern District Maintenance Shop	1.9				1.9	Council District 3	BOE								
Northern District Police	0.1				0.1	Council District 2	County								1
Northwest Street End Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Oak Hill ES	10.4				10.4	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1		2	2	1	
Oakwood ES	7.4				7.4	Council District 5	BOE		1	1		2	2	1	1
Odenton ES	6.6				6.6	Council District 2	BOE					1	1	1	1
Odenton Natural Area		122.1			122.1	Council District 4	BOE								
Odenton Park	47.7				47.7	Council District 4	County	3	5	8	2	1	3		2
Old Mill HS	172.5				172.5	Council District 4	County		2	2	1		1	1	
Old Mill MS North	-				-	Council District 4	BOE		3	3		1	1	1	
Old Mill MS South	-				-	Council District 4	BOE							1	
Old South Park	6.6				6.6	Council District 4	BOE	1	1	2	1		1		
Overlook ES	7.0				7.0	Council District 7	County		1	1		1	1	1	2
Overlook Park	19.9				19.9	Council District 1	BOE		1	1		1	1		1
Paca Garden				1.0	1.0	Council District 1	County								
Park ES	3.6				3.6	Council District 6	State							1	
Parole Green Space		2.9			2.9	Council District 1	BOE								
Pasadena ES	8.4				8.4	Council District 6	County		1	1				1	
Patapsco Valley State Park			979.0		979.0	Council District 3	BOE								
Patuxent Research Refuge				8,846.0	8,846.0	Council District 1	State								
Patuxent River Greenway - Archers	52.4				52.4	Council District 4	Federal								



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Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Patuxent River Greenway - Bayard		221.7			221.7	Council District 4	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Little Patuxent North		207.2			207.2	Council District 7	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Little Patuxent South		118.7			118.7	Council District 4	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Oxbow		308.2			308.2	Council District 4	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Patuxent Ponds Park		9.8			9.8	Council District 4	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Route 50		129.9			129.9	Council District 4	County								
Patuxent River Greenway - Wildlife Refuge		21.6			21.6	Council District 7	County								
Patuxent Wetlands Park		43.2			43.2	Council District 4	County								
Peninsula Park	30.4				30.4	Council District 7	County		5	5	2		2		2
Peoples Park	0.7				0.7	Council District 6	County								
Pershing Hill ES	6.6				6.6	Council District 6	County		1	1		1	1	1	1
Piney Orchard ES	10.8				10.8	Council District 4	BOE							1	
Piney Orchard Ice Rink	9.0				9.0	Council District 4	BOE								
Piney Orchard Park	3.1				3.1	Council District 4	County		2	2		1	1		
Pleasantville Park	13.5				13.5	Council District 4	County		1	1					2
Point Pleasant ES	12.9				12.9	Council District 1	County		1	1		1	1	1	
Poplar Park and Trail	1.5				1.5	Council District 2	BOE								
Poplar Ridge Park	58.6				58.6	Council District 6	Annapolis	1	2	3	1		1		
Post Office Park (Eastport)	0.5				0.5	Council District 3	BOE								
Pride Finance NRMA				38.0	38.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Primrose Acres	0.2				0.2	Council District 4	State								
Prince George Street Office			1.0		1.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Provinces Park	45.6				45.6	Council District 6	State		4	4		3	3		1
Pumphrey Park	9.0				9.0	Council District 1	County		2	2		1	1		2
Quarterfield ES	12.4				12.4	Council District 1	County					1	1	1	1
Queenstown Park	26.6				26.6	Council District 2	BOE		2	2		1	1		2
Quiet Waters Park	360.9				360.9	Council District 2	County								
Randazzo Park	19.6				19.6	Council District 6	County				2		2		
Recreation and Parks HQ	10.5				10.5	Council District 2	County								
Residential Resource Area		6,047.7			6,047.7	Council District 6	County								
Rev. John T. Chambers, Sr. Neighborhood Park	1.0				1.0	County-Wide	County								1
Rev. Joseph J. Turner Park	1.0				1.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								1
Richard B. "Dick" Sims Park (2nd Street)	0.5				0.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								

Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
															1								1	
																							1	
																							1	
																							3	
																							1	
															1			1				1		
	2		2		2		4		4		2												1	
	2																					3		
	1																					1		
																								1
	2																							
	1																					1		
																							2	
																						1		
	1		3		3													1	1			3		
2	4		1	1	2													7	1			1	2	
	2																					1		
	2												1					2	1			1		
															1	1		7	6			3	1	1
																		2				1	7	
	1																					1		
	1																					1		

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Richard Henry Lee ES	3.0				3.0	Council District 6	Annapolis					1	1	1	
Ridgeway ES	9.2				9.2	Council District 2	BOE		1	1		1	1	1	2
Rippling Woods ES	-				-	Council District 2	BOE		5	5				1	2
Riva Area Park	96.9				96.9	Council District 4	BOE	2	1	3	1	2	3		2
Riverside Park	1.2				1.2	Council District 7	County								1
Riverside Playground	0.6				0.6	Council District 1	County								
Riverwood Park	20.1				20.1	Council District 1	Subdivision Open Space		2	2		1	1		1
Riviera Beach ES	5.7				5.7	Council District 7	County		4	4		1	1	1	1
Robert H. Eades Park	0.2				0.2	Council District 3	BOE								
Rock Creek Park	13.6				13.6	Council District 6	Annapolis	2	2	4		1	1		2
Rockhold Creek Farm	396.5				396.5	Council District 3	County								
Rolling Knolls ES	8.8				8.8	Council District 7	County					2	2	1	2
Rose Haven Memorial Park	1.8				1.8	Council District 6	BOE								
Ruth P. Eason Special School	-				-	Council District 7	County		1	1				1	
Sands Road Park	181.6				181.6	Council District 2	BOE								2
Sandy Point State Park			786.0		786.0	Council District 7	County								
Sawmill Creek Park	36.6				36.6	Council District 5	State	2	2	4					2
Seven Oaks ES	9.8				9.8	Council District 2	County		1	1				1	1
Severn Danza Park	61.1				61.1	Council District 4	BOE	6	4	10	3		3		2
Severn ES	6.9				6.9	Council District 2	County		1	1		1	1	1	
Severn River MS	-				-	Council District 2	BOE							1	
Severn Run NEA				1,759.0	1,759.0	Council District 5	BOE								
Severna Park ES	5.3				5.3	Council District 4	State		1	1				1	
Severna Park HS	24.2				24.2	Council District 5	BOE		2	2	2	3	5	1	1
Severna Park MS	23.5				23.5	Council District 5	BOE		6	6		1	1	1	1
Shady Cove Natural Area		26.1			26.1	Council District 5	BOE								
Shady Side ES	10.2				10.2	Council District 7	County					1	1	1	
Shady Side Park	16.3				16.3	Council District 7	BOE	2	1	3	1	2	3		2
Shady Side Wharf	0.1				0.1	Council District 7	County								
Shepherd Property on Greenock Road		140.1			140.1	Council District 7	County								
Shiley Park - street end near Giddings Avenue	0.1				0.1	Council District 7	County								
Shipley's Choice ES	11.9				11.9	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1		1	1	1	2
Shipley's Choice Park	11.3				11.3	Council District 5	BOE		1	1					
Sixth Street Park	0.1				0.1	Council District 5	County								
Smithsonian Environmental Research Center				2,606.5	2,606.5	Council District 6	Annapolis								



	Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
		1																					1		
		3																					1		
		3																					1		
		2																	4	1			1		
		1																					2	2	
																							1		
		1		2		2		2		2		2		1					1	1			1		
		2																					1	1	
																							1	1	
																								2	
		3				2		4		4													1		
																1			1						
		1																					1		
		2																						1	
	2	4		6	4	10		4		4		1		1					1	1			1	1	
		2																					2		
		2		2		2		4		4										1			1	2	
		1																					1		
		1																							
		1																					1		
		2				8																	1		
		2																					1		
																								1	
		1																					1		
		2														1							1		
		3																					1		

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
Snug Harbor Natural Area		7.9			7.9	Council District 7	Federal								
Solley ES	6.2				6.2	Council District 7	County					1	1	1	
Solley Park	14.0				14.0	Council District 3	BOE		1	1					2
Solleys Cove Park	76.7				76.7	Council District 3	County								
South County Recreation Center	3.0				3.0	Council District 3	County							1	
South River Farm Park		186.8			186.8	Council District 7	County								
South River HS	105.4				105.4	Council District 7	County		2	2	2	1	3	1	
South Shore Elementary School	8.6				8.6	Council District 7	BOE		1	1				1	
South Shore Park	22.9				22.9	Council District 4	BOE								
South Shore Trail	75.2				75.2	Council District 4	County								
Southern HS	36.1				36.1	Council District 4	County		2	2	1		1	1	1
Southern MS	13.8				13.8	Council District 7	BOE		1	1		1	1	1	
Southgate ES	12.8				12.8	Council District 7	BOE		1	1				1	1
Southgate Old Mill Park	37.1				37.1	Council District 4	BOE	2		2	1		1		2
Spa Creek Conservancy		5.0			5.0	Council District 2	County								
Spa Creek Trail	2.0				2.0	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Spriggs Farm Park on the Magothy	56.9				56.9	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Stoney Creek Park	244.1				244.1	Council District 5	County								
Sullivan Park	7.5				7.5	Council District 3	County								
Sullivans Cove Natural Area		13.6			13.6	Council District 1	County								
Sun Valley Park	8.1				8.1	Council District 5	County		1	1					1
Sunset ES	10.7				10.7	Council District 3	Subdivision Open Space		3	3		1	1	1	
Sunset Park	26.2				26.2	Council District 3	BOE		2	2	1	1	2		
Susan C Campbell Park (City Dock)	0.5				0.5	Council District 3	County								
Third Street Park and Back Creek	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Thomas Point Park		45.1			45.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Thompson Street Waterfront Access	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	County								
Tick Neck Park	23.8				23.8	Council District 6	Annapolis		1	1	2	1	3		
Towers Branch Park	9.1				9.1	Council District 3	County								1
Tracey's ES	10.5				10.5	Council District 4	County					1	1	1	1
Truxtun Park	70.0				70.0	Council District 7	BOE		3	3				3	
Tucker Street Park	0.2				0.2	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Twin Oaks Park	10.8				10.8	Council District 6	Annapolis								
Tyler Heights ES	9.6				9.6	Council District 5	County					1	1	1	

	Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
		1																					1		
		2		2		2		2		2									1	1			1		
															1	1								1	
		1					2			2									1				1		
																								4	
		1				8																			
		1																					1		
																								3	
		2				6																			
		1																							
		2																					1		
		2		3	3	6													4				1	1	
																								1	
																1			1					1	
																								3	
		1																	1				1		
		1																					1		
																								1	
																			4	1					
																			1				1	2	
		1															1		2						
		2																					2		
		3		12			3	10		13					2					3		1	2		
															1	1									
																			1				1	1	
		1																					1		

Park Site	County/Municipal Recreation	County/Municipal Resource	Federal/State Recreation	Federal/State Resource	Total Acres	Council District	Ownership	Lighted Baseball	Unlighted Baseball	Total Baseball Fields	Lighted Multipurpose Fields	Unlighted Multipurpose Fields	Total Multipurpose Fields	Indoor Basketball Courts	Outdoor Basketball Courts
US Air Force Globecom Wildlife Sanctuary				836.0	836.0	Council District 6	BOE								
Valentine Creek Park	28.3				28.3	Council District 7	Federal								
VanBokkelen ES	29.7				29.7	Council District 4	County							1	
Vytar Property		10.5			10.5	Council District 1	BOE								
Walter S. Mills - Parole ES	5.3				5.3	Council District 6	Annapolis	1	1					1	
Waterbury Park	20.0				20.0	Council District 6	BOE	2	2						2
Waterworks Park and adjacent lands	45.0	455.0			500.0	Council District 4	County								
Waugh Chapel ES	11.9				11.9	Council District 6	Annapolis	1	1		1	1	1	1	
WB and A Trail	141.6				141.6	Council District 4	BOE								
Weisman Park	0.3				0.3	Council District 4	County								
Wells Cove Waterfront Access	0.1				0.1	Council District 6	Annapolis								
West Annapolis ES	1.5				1.5	Council District 6	HOA/Annapolis							1	1
West County Park	15.3				15.3	Council District 6	BOE								
West Gate Circle	0.1				0.1	Council District 1	County								
West Meade Early Education Center	5.5				5.5	Council District 6	Annapolis	1	1						
Wiley H Bates Heritage Park	9.0				9.0	Council District 4	BOE	1	1		1	1	1		1
Windsor Farm ES	12.0				12.0	Council District 6	County	1	1		2	2	2	1	
Woodside ES	8.4				8.4	Council District 5	BOE				1	1	1	1	
Wootons Landing Park		159.4			159.4	Council District 2	BOE								
Wootons Landing Park		159.4			159.4	Council District 7	County								
	10,132.0	11,273.6	1,865.0	15,159.5	38,430.2		TOTAL	60	290	350	78	169	247	123	156



	Lighted Outdoor Basketball	Total Basketball Courts	Indoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Lighted Outdoor Tennis	Total Tennis Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Lighted Outdoor Pickleball	Total Pickleball Courts	Curbball Courts	Rebound Courts	Volleyball Courts	Skate Courts	Boat Ramps	Car-top Launches	Dog Areas	Golf Courses	Picnic Areas	Pavilions	Indoor Pools	Outdoor Pools	Playgrounds	Trail Miles	Ice Rinks
8		1																					1		
287		1				2																	1		
-		2		2		2		4		4		1							1				2	1	
65																			1					14	
18		1																	1				1		
191																			1					8	
5																									
60																									
-																									
65																									
2																									
18																									
9																									
5																									
6																									
28																1									
9																									
2																									
216																			1						
65																				1					
2																									
1																									
193																							1		
228																							1		
3																							2		

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# Appendix B. Agricultural Preservation Sites Inventory

Map	Block	Parcel	Program	Purchased	Price	Acreage
67	15	54	MALPF	8/14/2018	\$507,750	94
64	17	35	MALPF	10/23/2017	\$996,750	147
64	4	5	MALPF	9/29/2016	\$996,000	134
72	19	115	MALPF	5/6/2014	\$758,125	66
63	11	20	MALPF	10/8/2014	\$1,545,760	156
63	9	95	MALPF	11/21/2013	\$1,153,271	123
63	9	95	MALPF	11/16/2011	\$1,991,197	177
68	20	91	MALPF	5 /8 /2009	\$2,651,073.91	19
68	20	142	MALPF	5 /8 /2009	\$2,651,073.91	43
73	3	159	MALPF	5 /8 /2009	\$2,651,073.91	24
73	2	29	MALPF	5 /8 /2009	\$2,651,073.91	100
64	2	2	MALPF	9 /26/2007	\$1,392,750.00	95
73	13	3	MALPF	5 /3 /2004	\$790,750.00	159
67	23	82	MALPF	12/3 /2003	\$444,046.00	103
63	22	43	MALPF	1 /29/2001	\$796,760.00	200
54	2	182	MALPF	6 /1 /2000	\$557,505.00	94
63	21	65	MALPF	3 /20/2000	\$34,000.00	10
63	15	36	MALPF	3 /20/2000	\$952,296.00	238
58	24	97	MALPF	2 /4 /2000	\$736,300.00	200
59	19	34	MALPF	2 /4 /2000	\$681,401.00	211
59	13	64	MALPF	2 /5 /1999	\$228,000.00	63
67	18	81	MALPF	2 /25/1998	\$780,500.00	224
68	5	72	MALPF	2 /27/1997	\$355,704.00	117
64	1	3	MALPF	10/27/1993	\$441,487.00	117
54	3	85	MALPF	12/31/1991	\$162,188.00	53
49	22	57	MALPF	12/31/1991	\$324,376.00	108
72	14	62	MALPF	8 /25/1988	\$126,000.00	77
76	11	21	MALPF	9 /21/1987	\$78,040.00	56
76	11	33	MALPF	9 /3 /1987	\$111,000.00	81
74	7	387	MALPF	8 /25/1987	\$184,100.00	133
58	6	23	MALPF	12/17/1986	\$193,477.00	106
72	9	46	MALPF	3 /26/1986	\$170,352.00	122
68	1	28	MALPF	10/17/1985	\$246,000.00	167
46	4	170	MALPF	10/17/1985	\$360,415.00	121
68	12	73	MALPF	6 /10/1985	\$31,850.00	22
68	12	143	MALPF	6 /10/1985	\$86,860.00	61
68	6	142	MALPF	6 /10/1985	\$130,290.00	93
72	9	1	MALPF	2 /11/1985	\$131,100.00	135

Map	Block	Parcel	Program	Purchased	Price	Acreage
64	18	272	MALPF	1 /3 /1985	\$107,000.00	66
59	20	36	MALPF	10/9 /1984	\$67,630.00	22
59	20	36	MALPF	10/9 /1984	\$15,370.00	5
59	10	105	MALPF	7 /26/1984	\$80,000.00	40
68	16	258	MALPF	4 /5 /1984	\$31,128.00	41
64	17	99	MALPF	3 /6 /1984	\$396,917.00	390
68	16	98	MALPF	1 /13/1984	\$76,480.00	97
65	14	247	MALPF	4 /8 /1983	\$132,000.00	65
65	20	246	MALPF	3 /21/1983	\$48,138.00	26
65	20	183	MALPF	3 /21/1983	\$24,069.00	13
65	14	132	MALPF	3 /21/1983	\$51,840.00	28
59	20	37	MALPF	11/9 /1982	\$195,769.00	183
65	20	8	MALPF	9 /1 /1982	\$168,583.00	85
65	13	136	MALPF	9 /1 /1982	\$127,417.00	61
59	20	67	MALPF	4 /30/1981	\$26,960.00	24
72	15	63	MALPF	8 /25/1980	\$141,600.00	90
MALPF Subtotals					\$30,771,597	5,485
42	15	13	County	10/10/2019	\$374,249	93
81	19	43	County	5/2/2019	\$514,197	90
71	12	160	County	11/15/2017	\$293,679	54
59	3	5	County	8/30/17	\$862,290	131
59	23	222	County	8/30/17	\$362,880	67
73	11	119	County	6/22/2011	\$1,487,000	63
73	11	119	County			63
73	11	119	County			80
76	16	46	County	7 /16/2008	\$933,240.00	107
73	2	95	County	12/20/2007	\$803,098.00	84
75	6	32	County	7 /26/2007	\$1,071,000.00	122
76	7	60	County	10/5 /2006	\$549,000.00	61
76	5	136	County	10/5 /2006	\$783,000.00	87
76	13	52	County	12/13/2005	\$368,814.00	61
46	5	400	County	6 /30/2004	\$1,504,404.00	126
73	20	70	County	6 /30/2004	\$327,136.00	73
47	1	82	County	6 /26/2004	\$351,000.00	59
76	9	168	County	5 /22/2003	\$263,948.00	65
72	21	22	County	1/28/2003	\$388,609.50	76
72	21	89	County	1/28/2003	\$388,609.50	76
43	22	85,86	County	12/19/2002	\$205,002.00	37
46	11	176	County	10/17/2002	\$1,621,346.00	149
64	15	49	County	9 /20/2002	\$197,100.00	75
67	14	34	County	3 /7 /2002	\$729,750.00	175
71	23	115	County	7 /26/2001	\$411,174.00	93
67	14	64	County	7 /26/2001	\$527,240.00	154



Map	Block	Parcel	Program	Purchased	Price	Acreage
64	10	242	County	7 /19/2001	\$922,500.00	312
64	3	104	County	7 /18/2001	\$304,369.00	86
76	3	76	County	3 /22/2001	\$539,055.00	121
77	11	333	County	1 /2 /2001	\$142,055.00	30
54	11	19	County	11/16/2000	\$651,546.00	156
63	12	147	County	9 /25/2000	\$114,360.00	20
63	12	14	County	9 /25/2000	\$161,415.00	35
73	7	18	County	9 /22/2000	\$406,260.00	90
77	11	79	County	9 /22/2000	\$514,872.00	107
67	15	70	County	9 /19/2000	\$419,440.00	121
65	9	135	County	9 /19/2000	\$444,480.00	88
68	11	160	County	8 /14/2000	\$334,126.00	86
68	11	71	County	8 /8 /2000	\$668,254.00	174
68	23	18	County	5 /12/2000	\$546,896.00	131
64	21	74	County	9 /15/1999	\$32,564.00	9
63	17	21	County	8 /16/1999	\$246,105.00	58
68	4	51	County	7 /20/1999	\$530,928.00	147
59	14	169	County	6 /23/1999	\$356,000.00	82
72	1	29	Donated	4 /11/1999	\$0.00	127
72	23	25	County	3 /23/1998	\$279,300.00	93
77	3	5	County	12/10/1997	\$222,277.00	72
77	3	302	County	12/10/1997	\$18,523.00	7
76	12	184	County	12/10/1997	\$212,400.00	47
81	10	214	County	12/8 /1997	\$172,800.00	83
76	14	137	County	9 /11/1996	\$115,788.00	38
76	14	151	County	9 /11/1996	\$84,212.00	24
64	13	46	Donated	2 /6 /1996	\$0.00	21
49	15	2	County	1 /2 /1996	\$211,723.00	50
63	5	12	County	11/22/1995	\$128,256.00	28
55	15	77	County	10/17/1995	\$99,500.00	50
49	24	12	County	10/17/1995	\$0.00	57
54	2	274	County	9 /13/1995	\$105,175.00	26
81	11	7	County	12/28/1993	\$129,750.00	100
81	9	80	County	12/28/1993	\$401,350.00	88
81	8	156	County	12/28/1993	\$147,850.00	68
30	12	405	County	9 /1 /1993	\$443,600.00	64
81	8	5	County	6 /9 /1993	\$127,700.00	62
54	8	87	County	4 /28/1993	\$363,600.00	116
67	12	59	County	3 /15/1993	\$129,800.00	48
68	7	31	County	3 /1 /1993	\$385,000.00	106
64	19	65	County	3 /1 /1993	\$760,000.00	219
47	1	64	County	10/7 /1992	\$244,350.00	58

Map	Block	Parcel	Program	Purchased	Price	Acreage
43	20	273	County	7 /23/1992	\$28,500.00	12
43	20	276	County	7 /11/1992	\$28,500.00	12
43	20	99	County	7 /11/1992	\$28,500.00	10
68	19	1	County	6 /11/1992	\$122,700.00	69
68	23	136	County	5 /1 /1992	\$124,207.00	56
68	17	256	County	5 /1 /1992	\$93,293.00	44
72	23	23	County	4 /22/1992	\$473,550.00	81
72	16	8	County	4 /22/1992	\$422,400.00	133
74	13	256	County	4 /6 /1992	\$183,200.00	93
73	4	28	County	2 /16/1992	\$136,742.00	56
68	22	200	County	2 /16/1992	\$310,308.00	125
County Subtotals					\$29,608,660	6,553
67	3	38	Rural Legacy	7/10/2019	\$706,372	117
67	15	71	Rural Legacy	12/12/2017	\$439,462	101.6
68	3	Multiple	Rural Legacy	10/2016	160,538	47
68	16	125	Rural Legacy	9/29/2015	\$735,881	81
76	1,6	1,3	Rural Legacy	9/29/2015	\$449,926	59
72	13	71	Rural Legacy	7/29/2014	\$1,059,188	104
64	16	81	Rural Legacy	7/29/2014	\$996,527	104
68	18	102	Rural Legacy	3/21/2011	\$1,901,793.30	183.5
72	11	5	Rural Legacy	5 /27/2009	\$840,006.00	71
68	24	16	Rural Legacy	4 /23/2003	\$1,048,912.70	179
63	6	85	Rural Legacy	10/15/2002	\$659,967.28	102
63	6	85	Rural Legacy	10/15/2002	\$330,786.00	51
63	6	85	Rural Legacy	10/15/2002	\$760,466.72	117
67	10	47	Rural Legacy	9 /20/2002	\$374,565.00	78
63	24	53	Rural Legacy	8 /14/2002	\$479,736.00	87
63	22	166	Rural Legacy	12/3 /2001	\$196,100.00	36
63	22	165	Rural Legacy	12/3 /2001	\$111,300.00	21
67	3	39	Rural Legacy	12/3 /2001	\$240,270.00	35
63	21	37	Rural Legacy	12/3 /2001	\$789,700.00	149
Rural Legacy Subtotals					\$12,281,497	1723
68	17	159	Com. Connections	12/21/2012	\$1,350,000	200
Com. Connections Subtotals					\$1,350,000	200
TOTALS					\$74,011,754	13,961

# Maryland Environmental Trust Properties

Easement	COHOLD	MET Acres	County	WebLink
0001GAR72.ANNE		10.535	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0036HIC79.ANNE		28.1	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0159MOR89.ANNE	SRLT	5.68	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0174MOS89.ANNE	SRLT	8.18	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0182PRI90.ANNE	SRLT	42.95	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0216BYS91.ANNE	SRLT	13.19	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0217LEI92.ANNE	SRLT	3.67	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0229HIA92.ANNE	SRLT	3.9	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0248SHA93.ANNE		16.72	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0425SSD98.ANNE	SRLT	28.759	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0449MCN98.ANNE	SRLT	10.63	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0478AAC99.ANNE	SRLT	50	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0483SSD99.ANNE	SRLT	27.445	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0534MCN00.ANNE	SRLT	2.79	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0663AAC02.ANNE	MRLT	368.95	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0672BRC02.ANNE	SRLT	79	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0673MPA02.ANNE	NCLT	115.27	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0701MAG02.ANNE		23	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0781KAP03.ANNE		3.04	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0797QUI04.ANNE	MHSRLT	312.834	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0801WAY04.ANNE		20	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0868AAC06.ANNE	SRLT	56.6	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0872BRT06.ANNE	SRLT	33	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0873CPS06.ANNE	NCLT	98.56	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0957SMI08.ANNE	SRLT	579	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0989CLA09.ANNE		254.925	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
0997PIS09.ANNE	SRLT	61.863	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1027AAC11.ANNE	SRLT	630.701	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1040MEL11.ANNE	SRLT	53.335	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1048GDC12.ANNE	SRLT	250	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1055CCO13.ANNE	SRLT	94.676	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1130EGO19.ANNE	SRLT	111.431	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>
1144LPL19.ANNE	SRLT	67.526	Anne Arundel	<a href="http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx">http://dnr.maryland.gov/met/Pages/default.aspx</a>

Name	Price	Acreage
MALPF Subtotals	\$30,771,597	5,485
County Subtotals	\$29,608,660	6,553
Com. Connections Subtotals	\$1,350,000	200
MET Subtotals	--	3,467
GRAND TOTAL		15,705

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# Appendix C. Compilation of Public Engagement

## **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

C1. Online Survey

C2. Town Hall Meetings / Listening Sessions

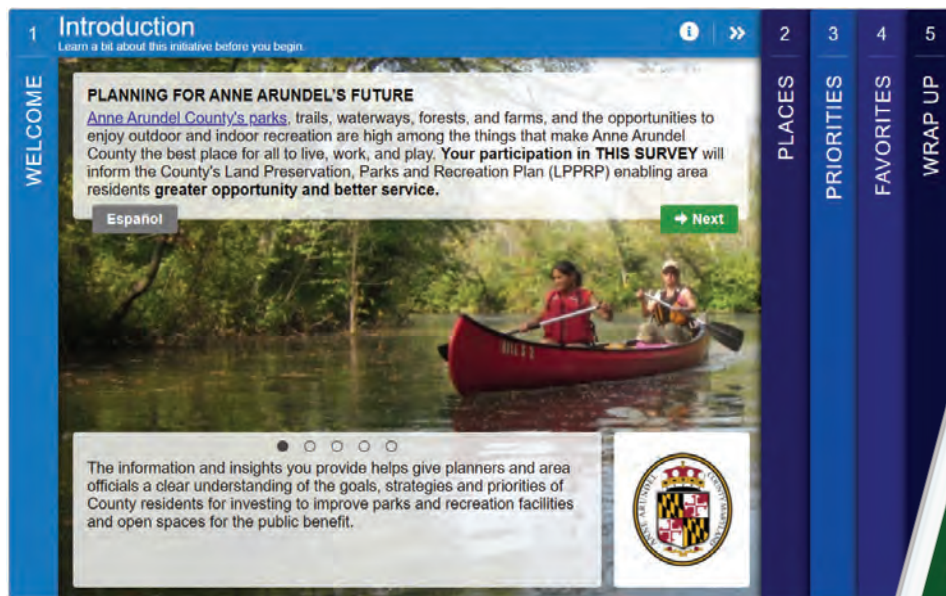
C3. Middle School Recreation & Parks Survey

C4. Public Input

C5. Plan2040 Comments / Recreation and Parks

The COVID-19 pandemic, which was active during the preparation of this plan, impacted the public engagement strategy. The pandemic put limits on the ability to conduct in-person engagement. For the safety of all residents, staff, and public officials involved in this process, all engagement was conducted online, either via online survey or Town Hall events held virtually using the Zoom platform. Despite the in-person limitations, the engagement was still robust and reached a wide audience.

# ONLINE SURVEY



## MetroQuest Survey: March 6 to May 15, 2021

The team opted to create a concise survey using the MetroQuest tool. That platform provided a an engaging, graphically rich, user experience that takes just a few minutes on a computer, tablet, or phone.

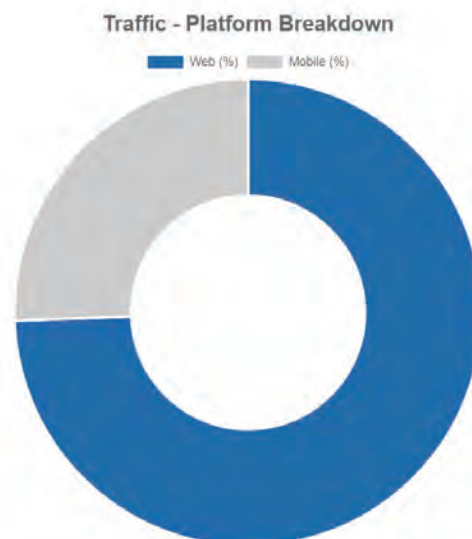
The Survey was opened on March 6, 2021 and closed on May 15, 2021. People were directed to the survey portal from the Parks and Recreation website. 2,813 people completed the survey.

The Survey was also promoted on the Recreation and Parks Department's website, Facebook posts, tweets, and e-newsletter, as well as Eye on Annapolis (a community news and events site), the County Executive's e-newsletter, and a 4/23/2021 email to County middle-schoolers and parents.

About 25% of respondents took the Survey on their Smartphones.

### Survey Comments

This survey generated thousands of comments from residents across Anne Arundel County. When applicable, the comments were reviewed and summarized in the sections below. All comments were transferred to the Parks and Recreation Department for full review and are on file.



## Methodology for Assigning Council Districts

In order to gain the most number of responses, the survey did not ask person information down to the individual's address as many people feel uncomfortable providing such information. The survey did ask for Zip Code, however we wanted the analysis to be at the Council District level and Zip Codes don't directly line up with Council Districts (see Figure C-1). The Team was able to assign 90.4% of respondents a Council District from the collected data. The methodology for that is as follows:

- All survey response data was exported and mapped using GIS.
- Any response with the ZIP Code field filled out was mapped to that ZIP Code. To assign to a Council District, Pennoni calculated the percentage of area of each zip code within each District and split the responses between Districts at the same ratio. For example, if there were 100 responses in a zip code that is geographically split 70:30 between District 1 and District 2, then 70 random responses from the zip code would have been assigned to District 1 and 30 random responses would have been assigned to District 2.
- For responses without zip codes, Pennoni calculated the geographic center of the points of interest dropped by responders in the mapping exercise.
- Between the two methods, almost all responses were able to be associated with a Council District.

Broadly speaking, this exercise indicates a greater percentage of participation for residents of Council District 7, and eastern Districts 6 and 3 than for the northern Districts 1 and 2.

Demographics were summarized by Council District in the next section. The discrepancy in demographics of the respondents versus the Countywide demographics should be considered when reviewing these results, since the survey is not statistically representative of the County population, especially in Districts with more diverse residents. Countywide it is important for this feedback to be looked at in connection with the Park Equity Map.

Figure C-1: Zip Codes and Council Districts

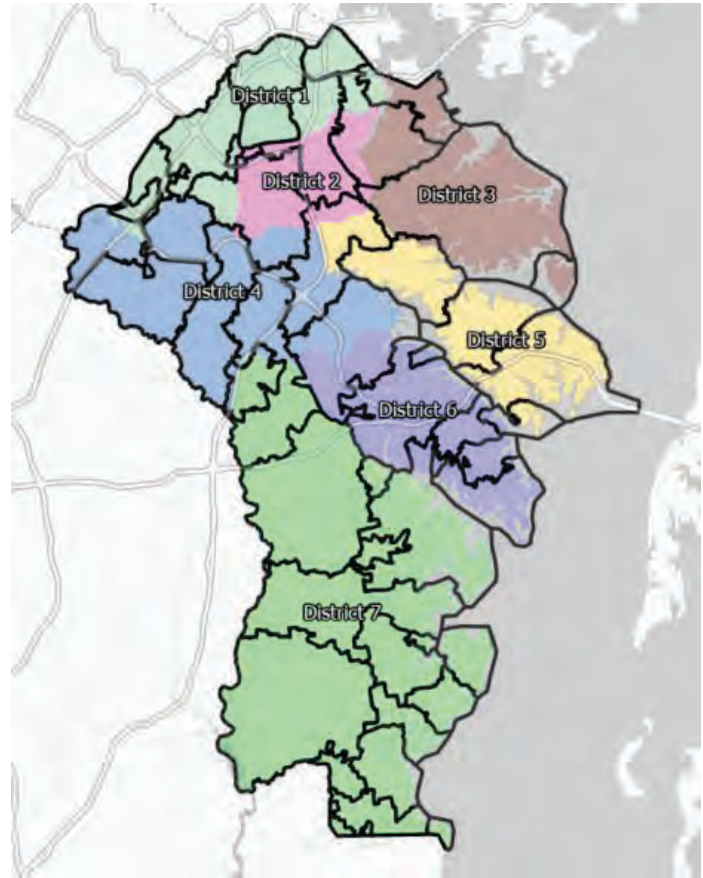


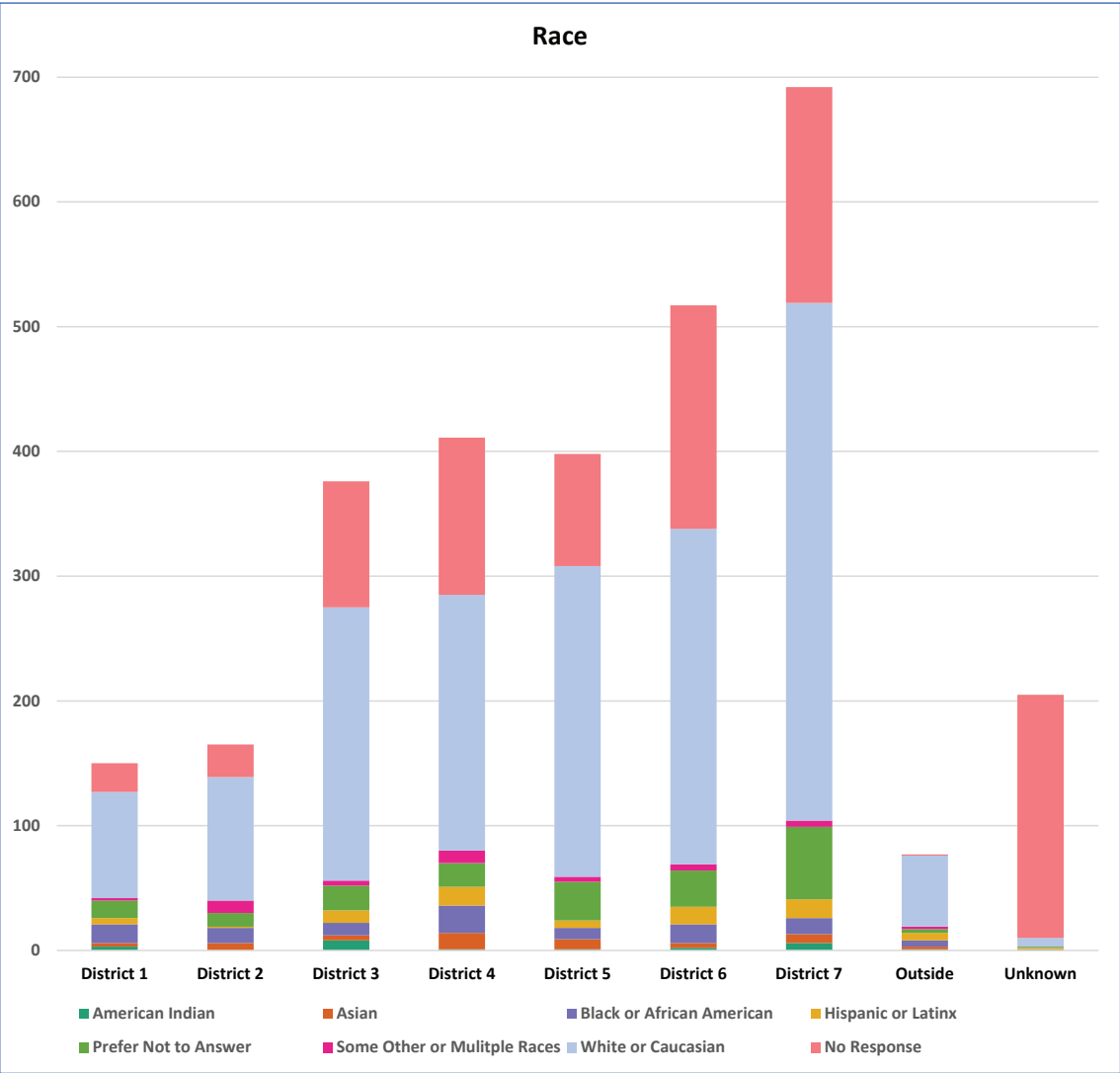
Figure C-2: Respondents by Council District

Council District	Population	Percent of Total
District 1	138	4.91%
District 2	147	5.23%
District 2	2	0.07%
District 3	351	12.48%
District 4	374	13.30%
District 5	379	13.47%
District 6	494	17.56%
District 7	658	23.39%
Outside	66	2.35%
Unknown	204	7.25%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2813</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Survey Demographics - Race

Figure C-3: *Survey Race by Council District*

District	American Indian	Asian	Black or African American	Hispanic or Latinx	Prefer Not to Answer	Some Other or Multiple Races	White or Caucasian	No Response	Grand Total
District 1	3	3	15	5	14	2	85	23	150
District 2	0	6	12	1	11	10	99	26	165
District 3	8	4	10	10	20	4	219	101	376
District 4	1	13	22	15	19	10	205	126	411
District 5	1	8	9	6	31	4	249	90	398
District 6	2	4	15	14	29	5	269	179	517
District 7	6	7	13	15	58	5	415	173	692
Outside	1	2	5	6	3	2	57	1	77
Unknown	0	0	1	1	1	0	7	195	205
Grand Total	22	47	102	73	186	42	1605	914	2991

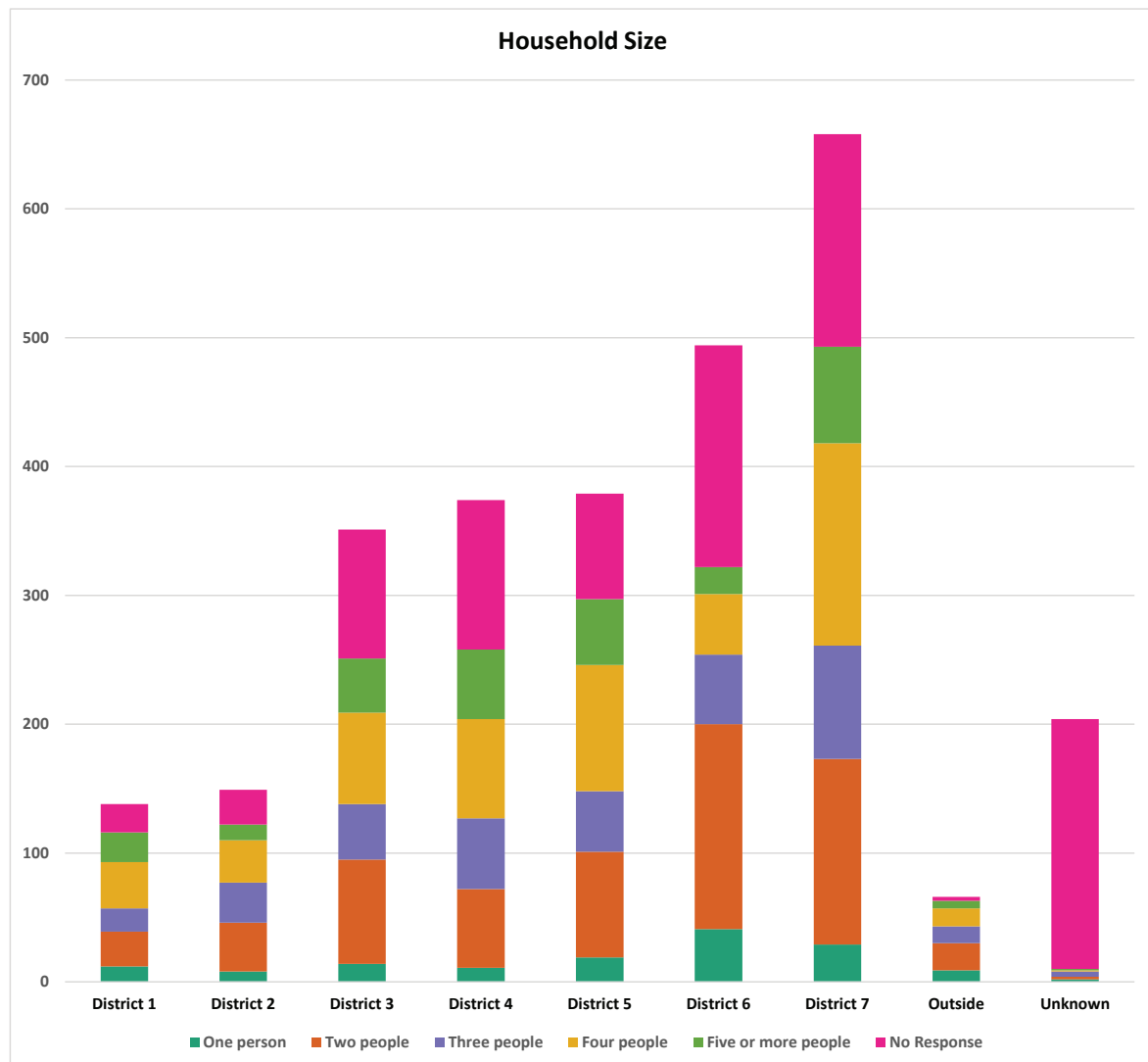




## Survey Demographics - Household Size

Figure C-4: *Survey Household Size by Council District*

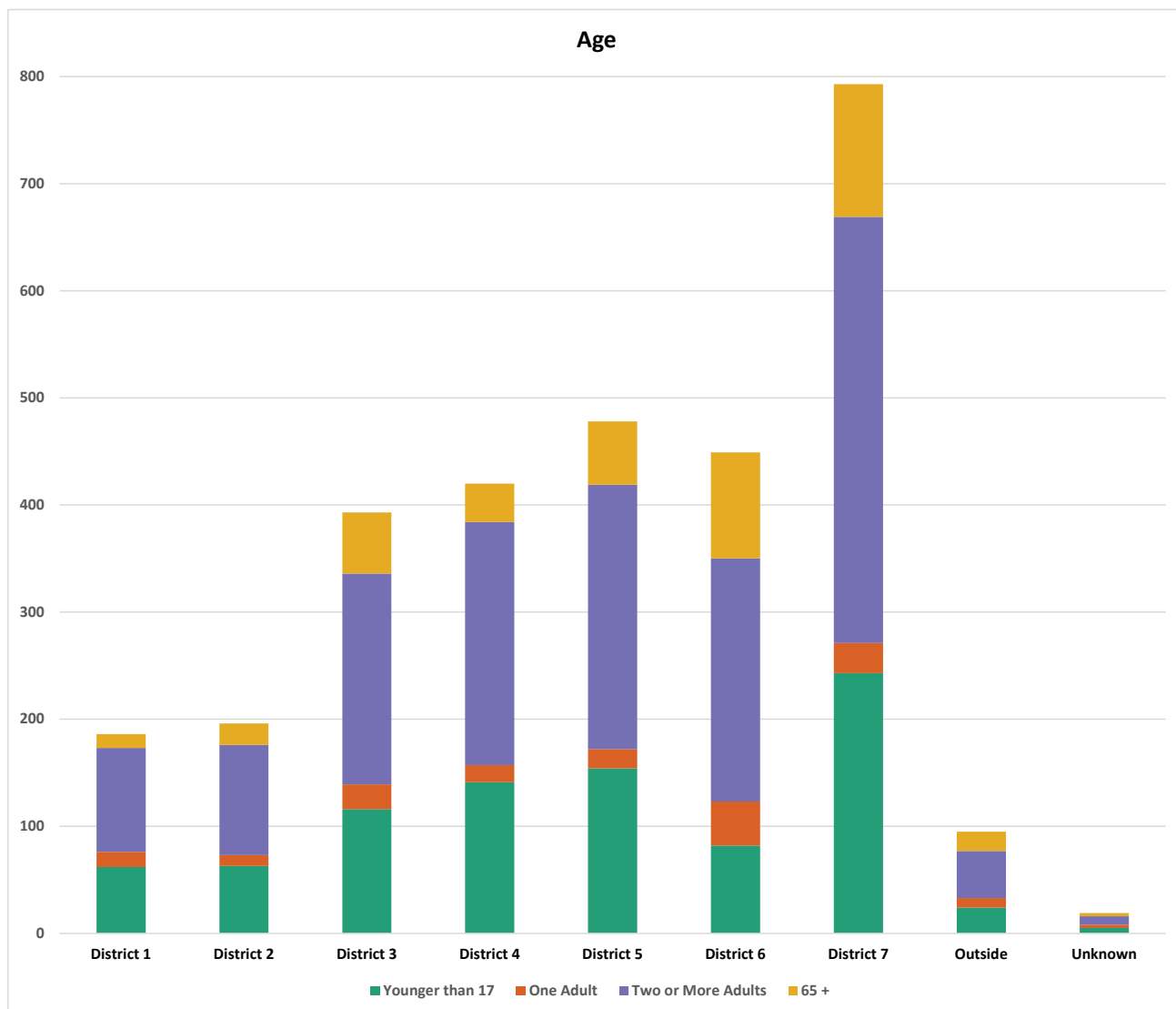
District	One person	Two people	Three people	Four people	Five or more people	No Response	Grand Total
District 1	12	27	18	36	23	22	138
District 2	8	38	31	33	12	27	149
District 3	14	81	43	71	42	100	351
District 4	11	61	55	77	54	116	374
District 5	19	82	47	98	51	82	379
District 6	41	159	54	47	21	172	494
District 7	29	144	88	157	75	165	658
Outside	9	21	13	14	6	3	66
Unknown	2	2	4	1	1	194	204
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>2813</b>



## Survey Demographics - Age

Figure C-5: Survey Age by Council District

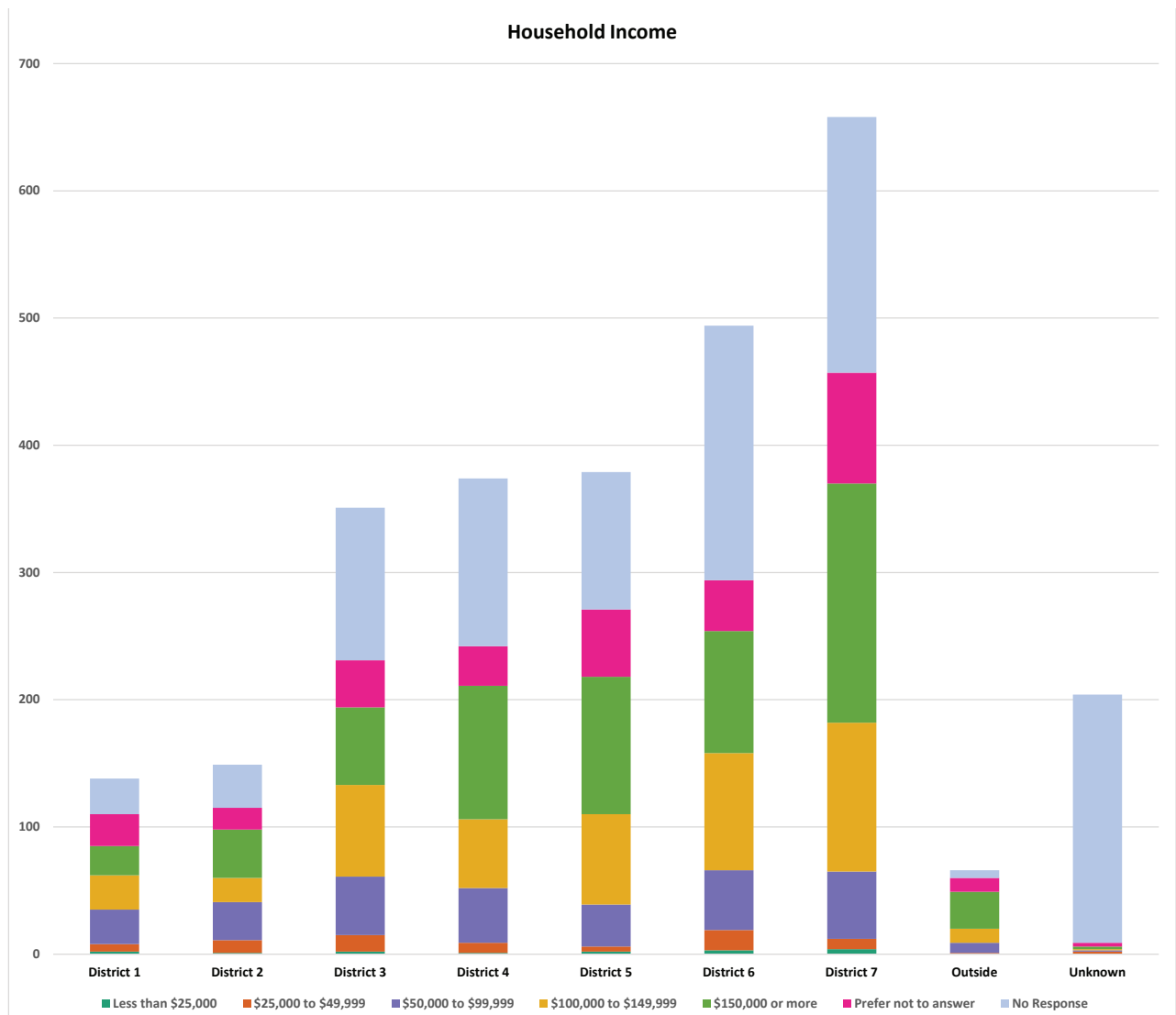
District	Younger than 17	One Adult	Two or More Adults	65 +	Grand Total
District 1	62	14	97	13	186
District 2	63	10	103	20	196
District 3	116	23	197	57	393
District 4	141	16	227	36	420
District 5	154	18	247	59	478
District 6	82	41	227	99	449
District 7	243	28	398	124	793
Outside	24	9	44	18	95
Unknown	5	3	8	3	19
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>1548</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>3029</b>



## Survey Demographics - Household Size

Figure C-6: Survey Race by Council District

District	Less than \$25,000	\$25,000 to \$49,999	\$50,000 to \$99,999	\$100,000 to \$149,999	\$150,000 or more	Prefer not to answer	No Response	Grand Total
District 1	2	6	27	27	23	25	28	138
District 2	1	10	30	19	38	17	34	149
District 3	2	13	46	72	61	37	120	351
District 4	1	8	43	54	105	31	132	374
District 5	2	4	33	71	108	53	108	379
District 6	3	16	47	92	96	40	200	494
District 7	4	8	53	117	188	87	201	658
Outside		1	8	11	29	11	6	66
Unknown		2	1	1	2	3	195	204
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>1024</b>	<b>2813</b>



## Interactive Map

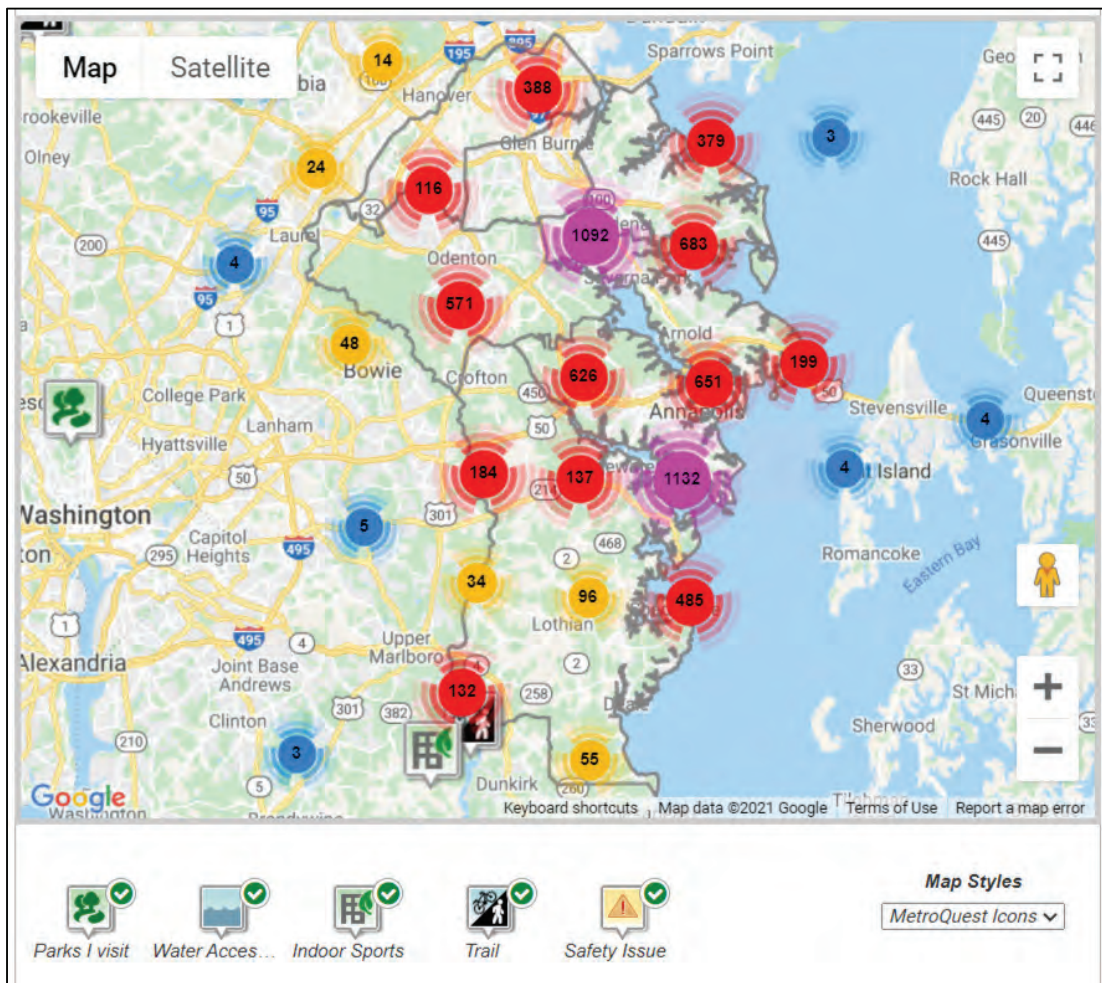
The interactive map invited participants to identify, by dropping a "pin" on a searchable map, the Parks and Recreation Facilities that they visit; also stating how often they visit and what conditions were observed.

The map helped participants zero in on the location of the County's 140+ parks and sanctuaries, and specialized recreational facilities such as the swim centers, golf courses, baseball stadium, softball complex, and historic sites. Once zoomed in, each participant was asked to locate a "Park I visit", "Water Access I've Used", "Indoor Sports" facility, "Trail" they use, and/or "Safety Issue" they have encountered. Additionally, the interface invited individual comments, linked to specific places.

The Map Parks and Recreation Facilities You Visit section of the survey saw the highest participation and generated more than 7,000 points dropped. Of those, almost 5,500 had detailed, location-specific observations or comments. Since each pin drop registers a precise longitude latitude reference point, comments can be associated with some confidence to individual parks and facilities.

The most comments were left closest to the following parks:

1. Quiet Waters Park (428 comments)
2. Kinder Farm Park (377 comments)
3. Downs Memorial Park (295 comments)
4. Beverly Triton Nature Park (174 comments)





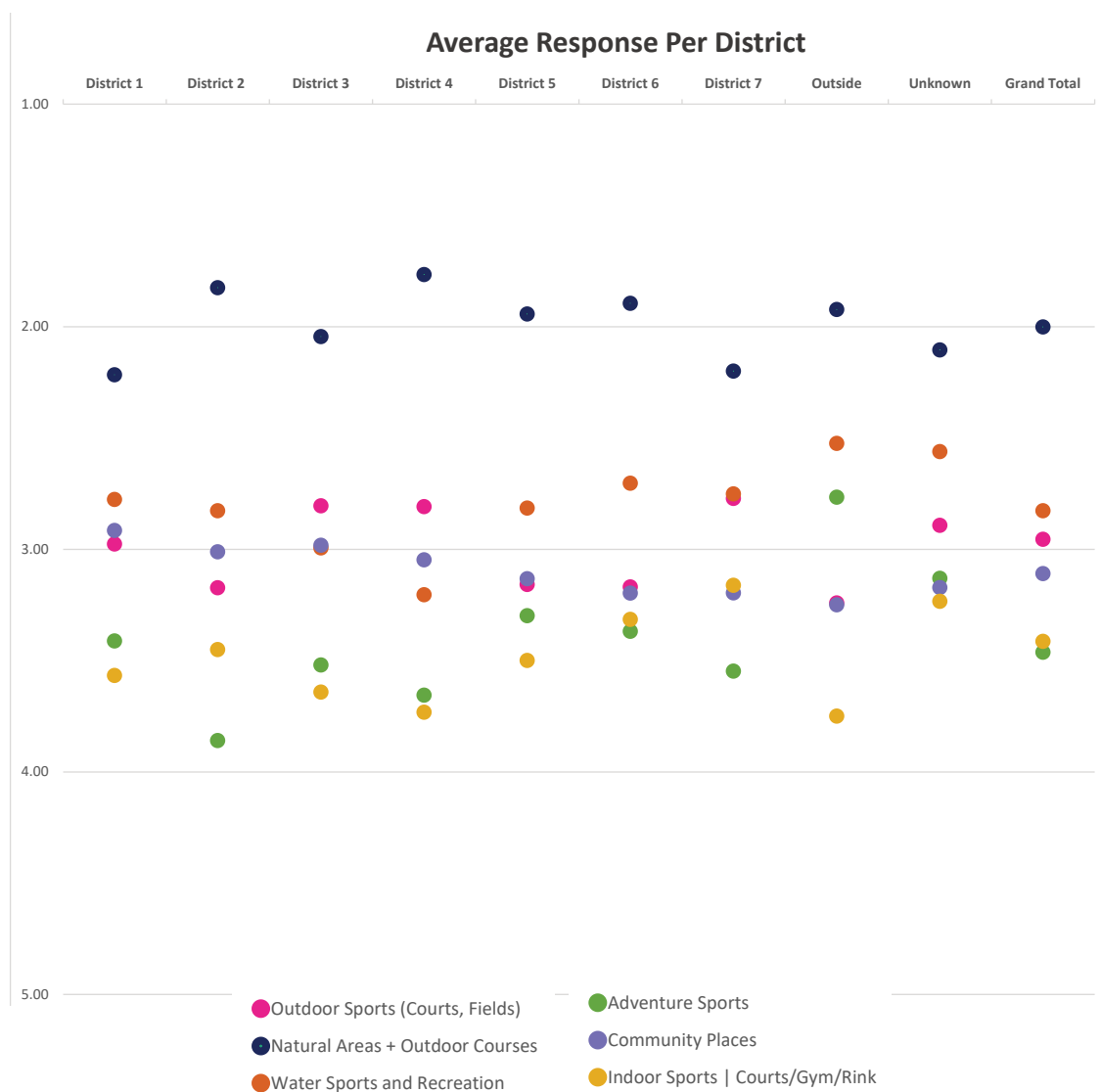
## Priority Ranking

The Priority Ranking Section screen asks "What recreational experiences/activities do you most value?" The choices are broad. They include Water Sports and Recreation, Outdoor Sports (Courts, Fields), Community Places, Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses, Adventure Sports, and Other. Each is accompanied by an illustration and a short description. This screen also offered opportunities for comments, linked to specific recreational activities. This screen generated over 8,000 inputs, including 684 comments

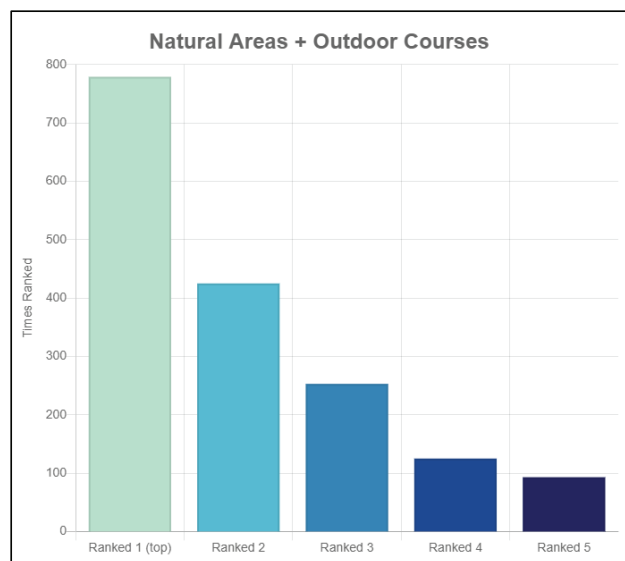
Countywide priorities fell into the following order:

1. Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses
2. Water Sports and Recreation
3. Outdoor Sports
4. Community Places
5. Indoor Sports
6. Adventure Sports

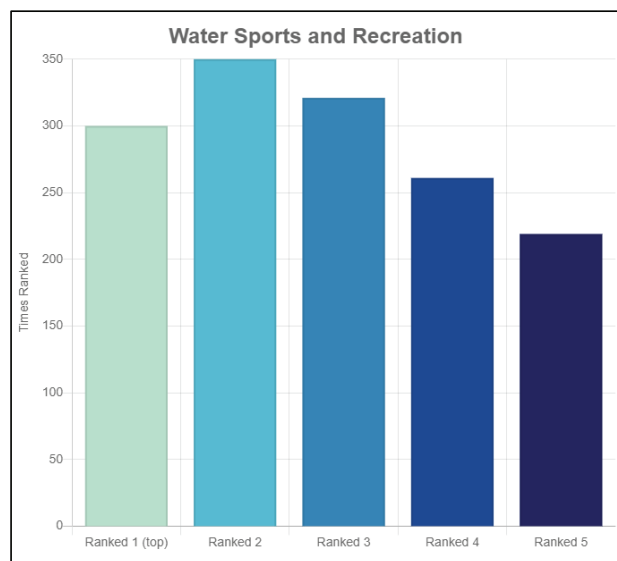
The responses varied slightly in each District. The results are shown below. In this ranking, respondents ranked things from first to fifth. One was best, and fifth was lowest.



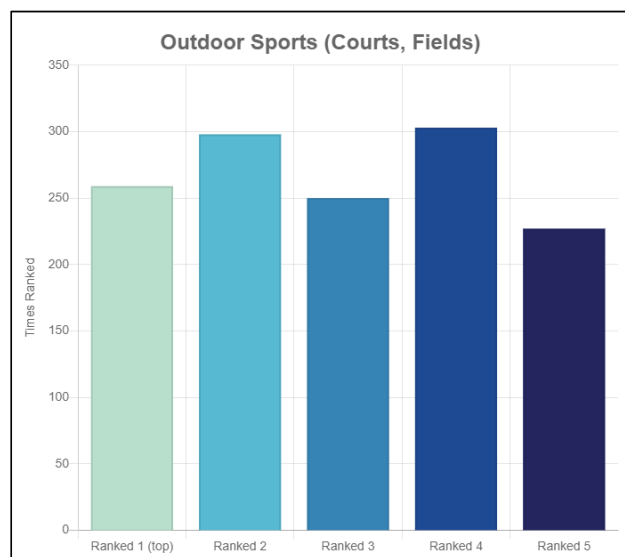
## Priority Ranking - Continued, Detailed



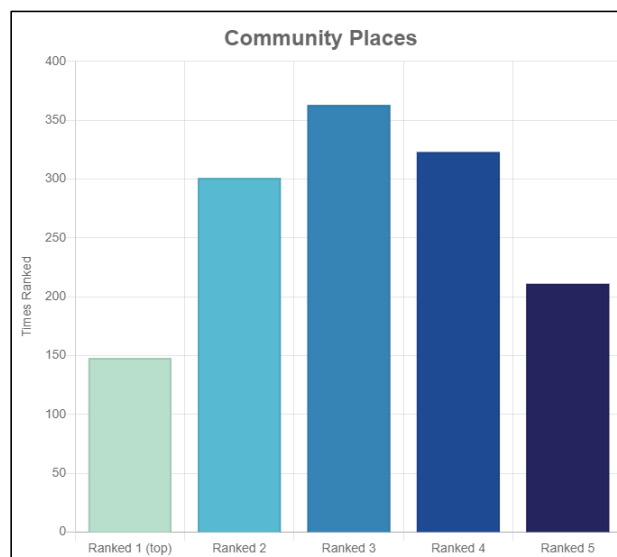
More participants ranked outdoor natural areas and activities number one/highest priority than the 5 other categories recreational activity. In the comments, trails were consistently described as needed or appreciated.



Not surprisingly, water sports, such as swimming, kayaking, boating, or paddle boarding ranked high in the minds of participants.

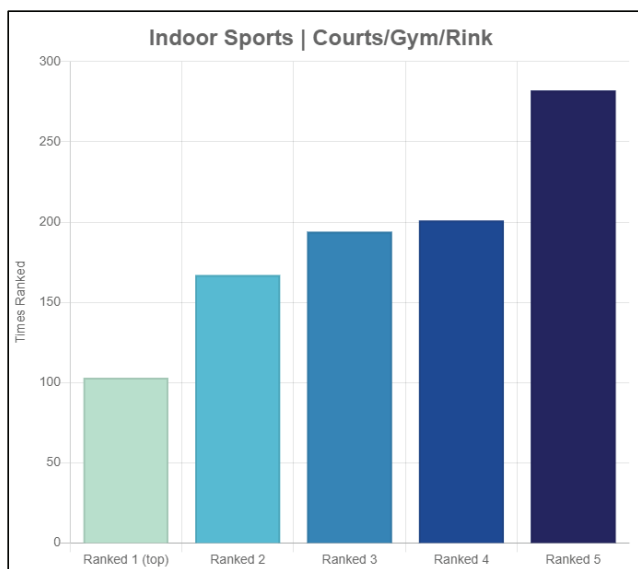


Traditional outdoor sports and games like soccer, baseball, basketball, volleyball, tennis, or pickleball factored prominently in priority ranking exercise.

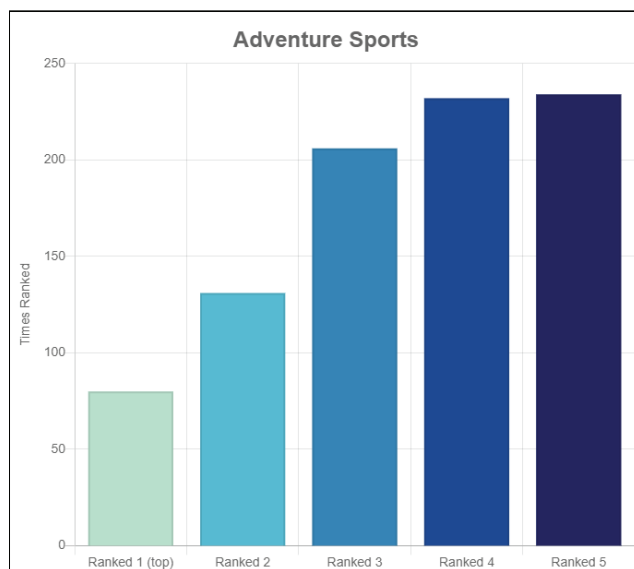


Though not #1 priority, common spaces where members of a community can interact, such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, tot lots, gardens, dog parks, historic or natural sites, etc, was a high priority and also figured proximately in direct requests expressed by users in the "OTHER?" category.

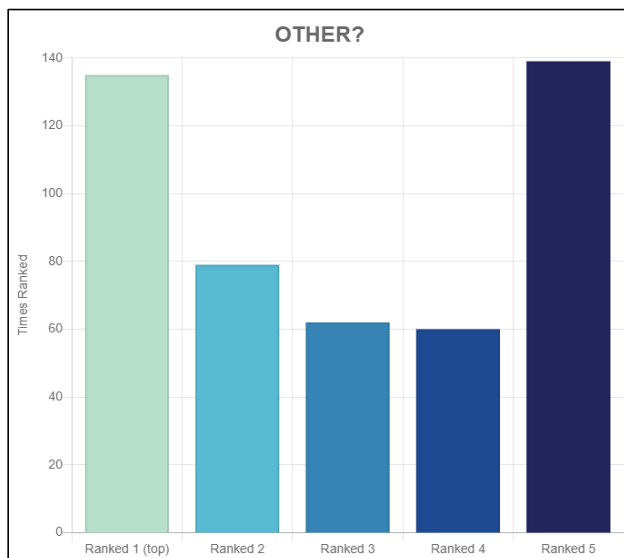
## Priority Ranking - Continued, Detailed



Sports conducted within an enclosed building, such as basketball, fitness classes, volleyball, gymnastics, etc, have an avid following, but was selected as a lower priority by participants. Further evaluation needed to determine if this reflects the participant demographics or general satisfaction with available facilities and access compared to other recreational categories.



Interest in climbing, biking, paint ball, and zip-lining lagged other categories. Could be related to the older demographic of the typical participant.



There was also an “other” option where respondents could write in their priority. Upon further analysis of those answers, many fell within the original six categories. If they did not, they were largely concerned with trails, park programming, biking, dog parks, playgrounds, disc golf, and horse-back riding.

WELCOME

2

3

4

5

PLACES

PRIORITIES

FAVORITES

Adventure Sports

Outdoor Sports (Courts or Fields)

Community Places

Indoor Arena/Gym/Rink

Natural Areas + Outdoor Courses

Water Sports and Recreation

NEW COUNTY PARKS

NEW COUNTY PARKS cont'd

Do you, or people in you household, do Adventure Sports?

Which Adventure Sports did/do you participate in, or are likely to in the future? Check all that apply

☐ Archery
☐ Target/skeet range
☐ Paint ball
☐ Rock climbing walls
☐ Off-road vehicle areas
☐ Zip lines

Are you prevented from participating in any sports because of lack of convenient places to play? Check any that apply

☐ Archery
☐ Target/skeet range
☐ Paint ball
☐ Rock climbing walls
☐ Off-road vehicle areas
☐ Zip lines

WRAP UP

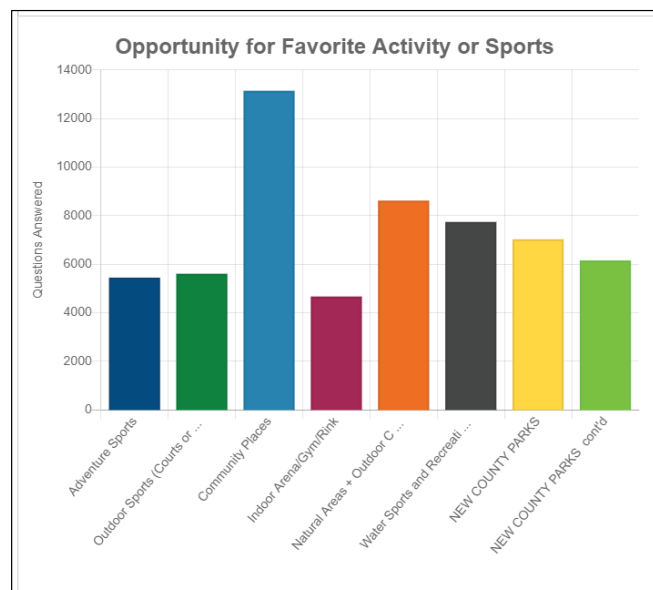
## Opportunity for Favorite Activity or Sport

This screen offered opportunity to share experience and preferences in some detail on several different categories of activities and sports in the County include Adventure Sports, Outdoor Sports, Community Places, Indoor Areal/Gyms/Rinks, Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses, and Water Sports and Recreation.

- For each category, survey takers could answer two questions:
  - » Which of the following (specific to each category) did/do you participate in, or are likely to in the future?
  - » Are you prevented from participating in any because of lack of convenient places to play?
- Participants were invited to share recommendations for new/additional programs and activities, as well as opinions on expansion, land preservation, and acquisition.
- Participants were asked to share opinions about safety, field surfaces (natural vs synthetic) and night time lighting of courts and athletic fields.

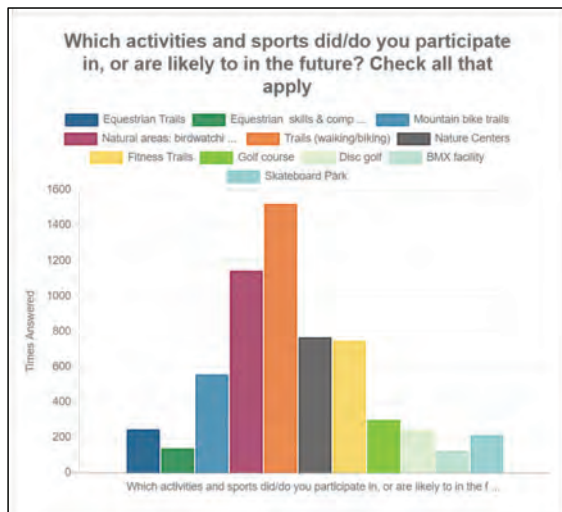
Of all the areas to comment or answer questions, the Community Places section got the highest number of responses followed by Natural Areas, Water Sports, and the questions about new county parks.

Figure C-7: *Response numbers for Favorite Section*





## Participation & Limitations - Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses

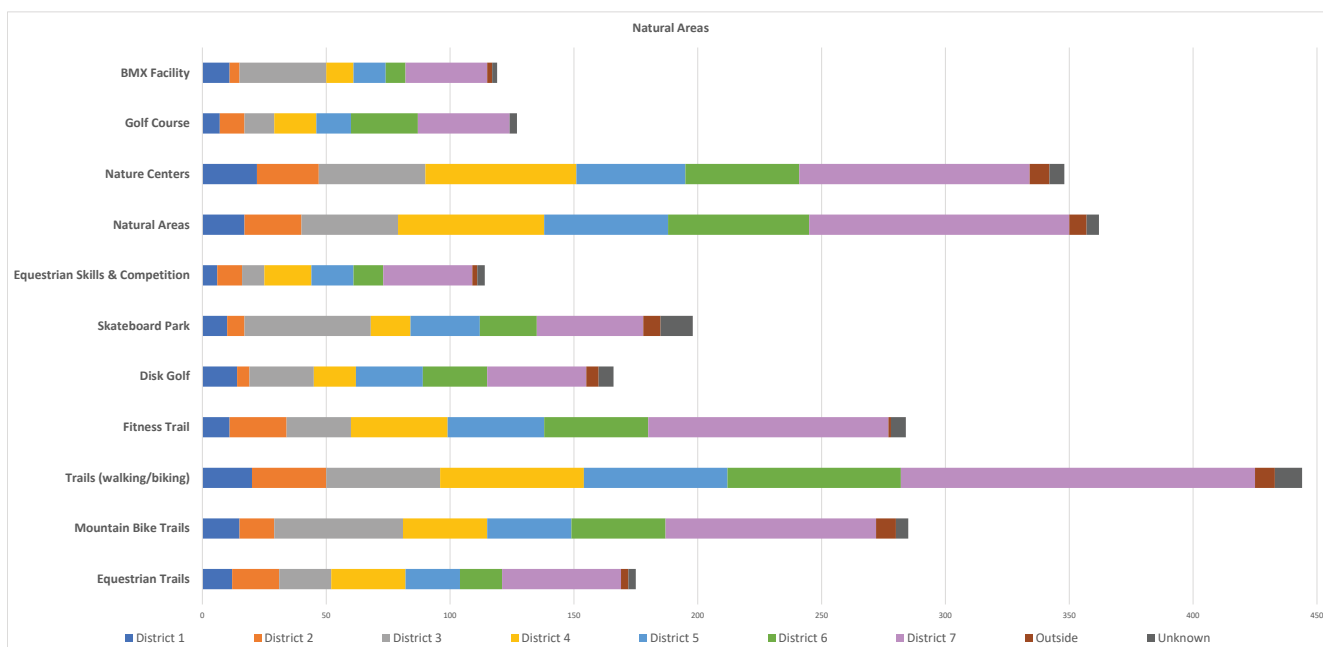


When asked about outdoor activities respondents participate in, over 25% pointed to Trails (walking, biking, mountain biking and fitness trails), followed by Natural Areas, Nature Centers, Skate Park, Equestrian Trails and Disc Golf, with Golf, BMX and Equestrian Skills and Competition rounding out the list of activities.

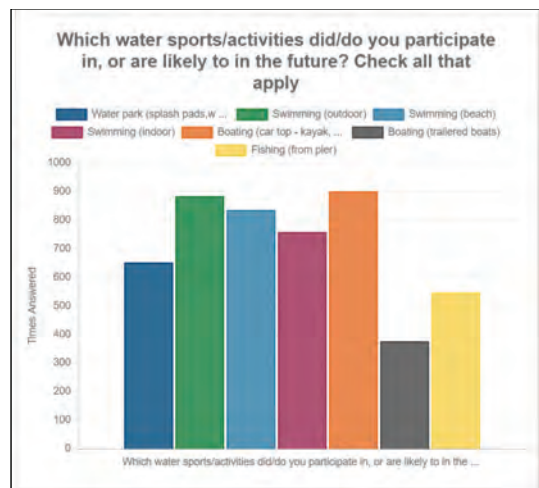
When asked about Outdoor Activities (Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses), respondents feel they are prevented from participating in for lack of facilities, again, most pointed to Trails (walking, biking, mountain biking and fitness trails). Equestrian Trails, Mountain Biking, BMX and Skateboard Park recorded high apparent unmet demand as a proportion of present users.

Figure C-8: *Natural Areas -- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?*

District	Equestrian Trails	Mountain Bike Trails	Trails (walking/biking)	Fitness Trail	Disk Golf	Skateboard Park	Equestrian Skills & Competition	Natural Areas	Nature Centers	Golf Course	BMX Facility
District 1	12	15	20	11	14	10	6	17	22	7	11
District 2	19	14	30	23	5	7	10	23	25	10	4
District 3	21	52	46	26	26	51	9	39	43	12	35
District 4	30	34	58	39	17	16	19	59	61	17	11
District 5	22	34	58	39	27	28	17	50	44	14	13
District 6	17	38	70	42	26	23	12	57	46	27	8
District 7	48	85	143	97	40	43	36	105	93	37	33
Outside	3	8	8	1	5	7	2	7	8	0	2
Unknown	3	5	11	6	6	13	3	5	6	3	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>119</b>



## Participation & Limitations - Water Sports and Recreation

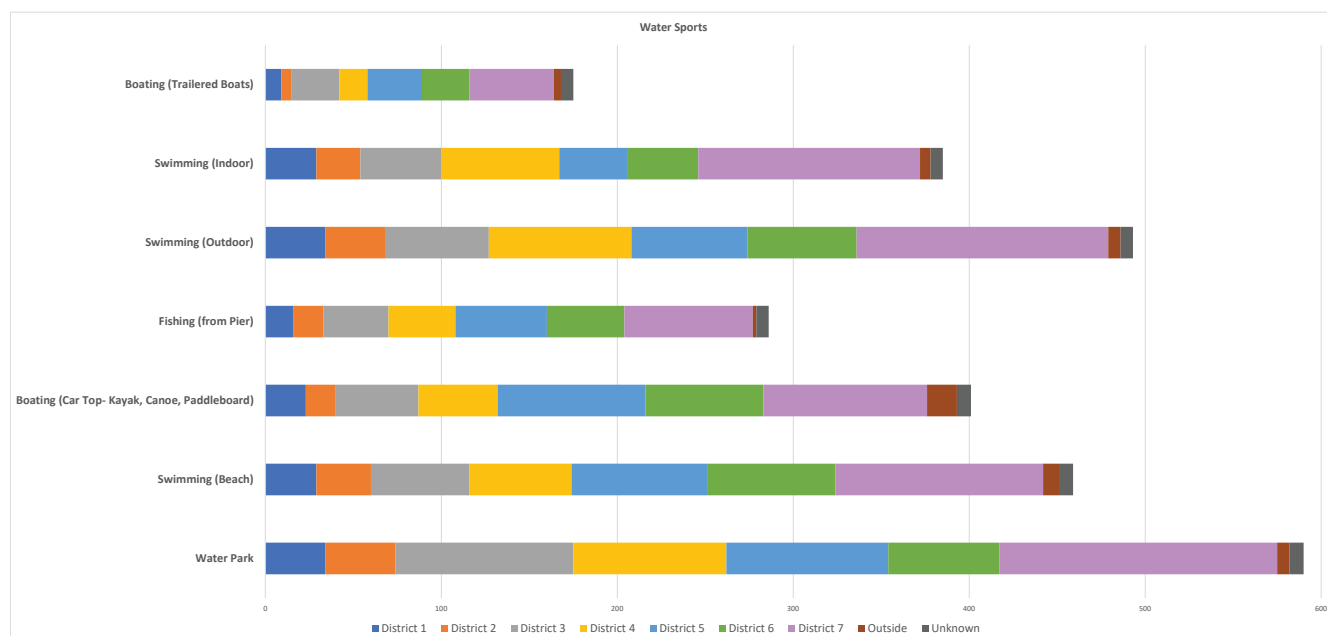


When asked about Water Sports respondents participate in, the top answers were Boating (car top), Swimming (outdoor), Swimming (beach), and Swimming (indoor). The lowest participation was in Boating (trailer boats).

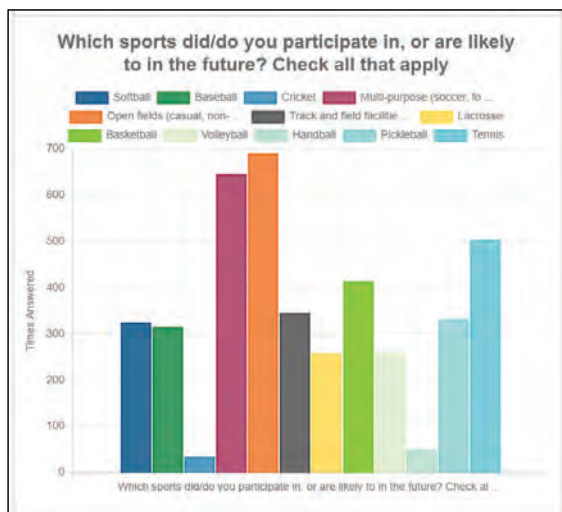
When asked about Water Sports respondents feel they are prevented from participating in for lack of facilities or access, the top answers were Water Parks, Swimming (outdoor), Swimming (beach), and Boating (car top).

Figure C-9: **Water Sports/ Recreation -- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?**

District	Water Park	Swimming (Beach)	Boating (Car Top- Kayak, Canoe, Paddleboard)	Fishing (from Pier)	Swimming (Outdoor)	Swimming (Indoor)	Boating (Trailer Boats)
District 1	34	29	23	16	34	29	9
District 2	40	31	17	17	34	25	6
District 3	101	56	47	37	59	46	27
District 4	87	58	45	38	81	67	16
District 5	92	77	84	52	66	39	31
District 6	63	73	67	44	62	40	27
District 7	158	118	93	73	143	126	48
Outside	7	9	17	2	7	6	4
Unknown	8	8	8	7	7	7	7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>175</b>



## Participation & Limitations - Outdoor Sports

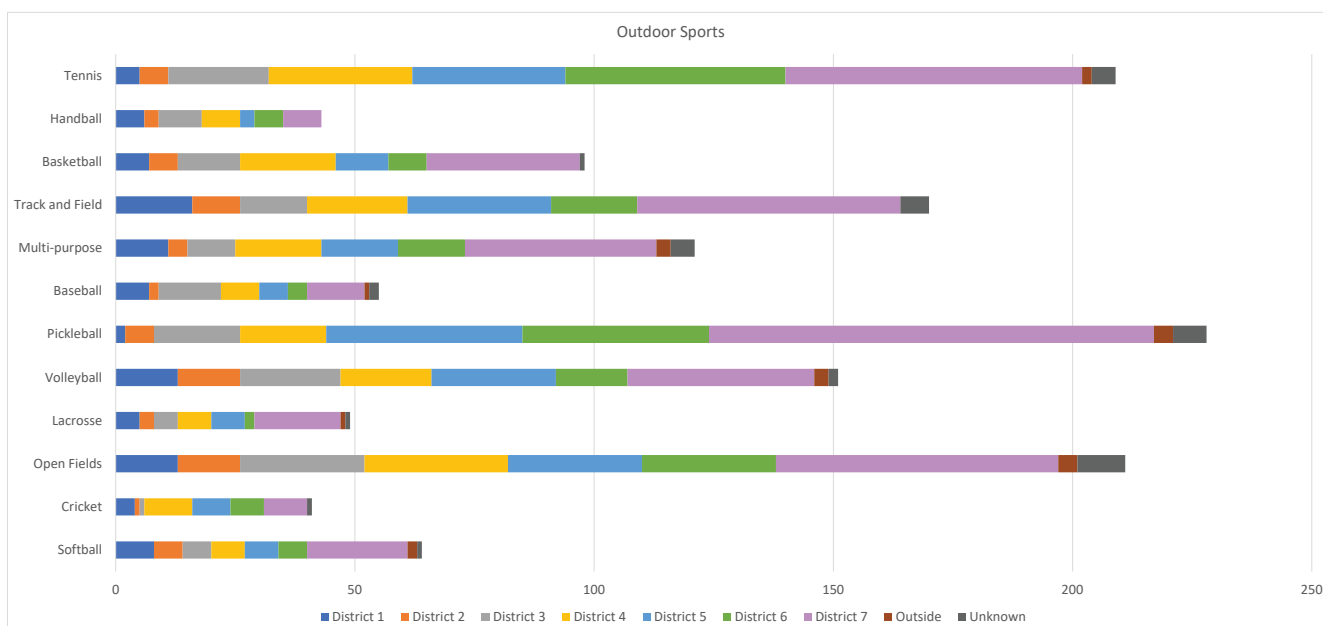


Outdoor Sports respondents are most likely to say they participate in are field sports such as soccer, football or casual play. Baseball/ Softball and Tennis/Pickleball are also very popular with respondents, followed by court sports (Basketball and Volleyball). Track and Field facilities were regularly mentioned as valued. Lacrosse has a strong following, it would be useful to match to places in the county. Same is true for emerging interest in Cricket and Handball.

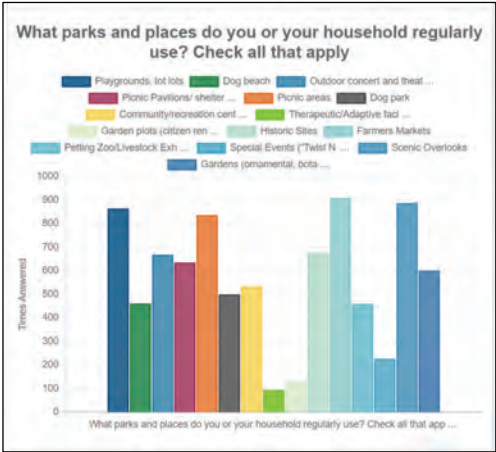
Outdoor Sports that respondents say demand is not matched in terms of convenient facilities are Pickleball, Fields for programmed and pick-up-play, and Tennis. Track Sports and Volleyball also receive prominent mention.

Figure C-10: *Outdoor Sports -- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?*

District	Softball	Cricket	Open Fields	Lacrosse	Volleyball	Pickleball	Baseball	Multi-purpose	Track & Field	Basketball	Handball	Tennis
District 1	8	4	13	5	13	2	7	11	16	7	6	5
District 2	6	1	13	3	13	6	2	4	10	6	3	6
District 3	6	1	26	5	21	18	13	10	14	13	9	21
District 4	7	10	30	7	19	18	8	18	21	20	8	30
District 5	7	8	28	7	26	41	6	16	30	11	3	32
District 6	6	7	28	2	15	39	4	14	18	8	6	46
District 7	21	9	59	18	39	93	12	40	55	32	8	62
Outside	2	0	4	1	3	4	1	3	0	0	0	2
Unknown	1	1	10	1	2	7	2	5	6	1	0	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>209</b>



# Participation & Limitations- Community Places



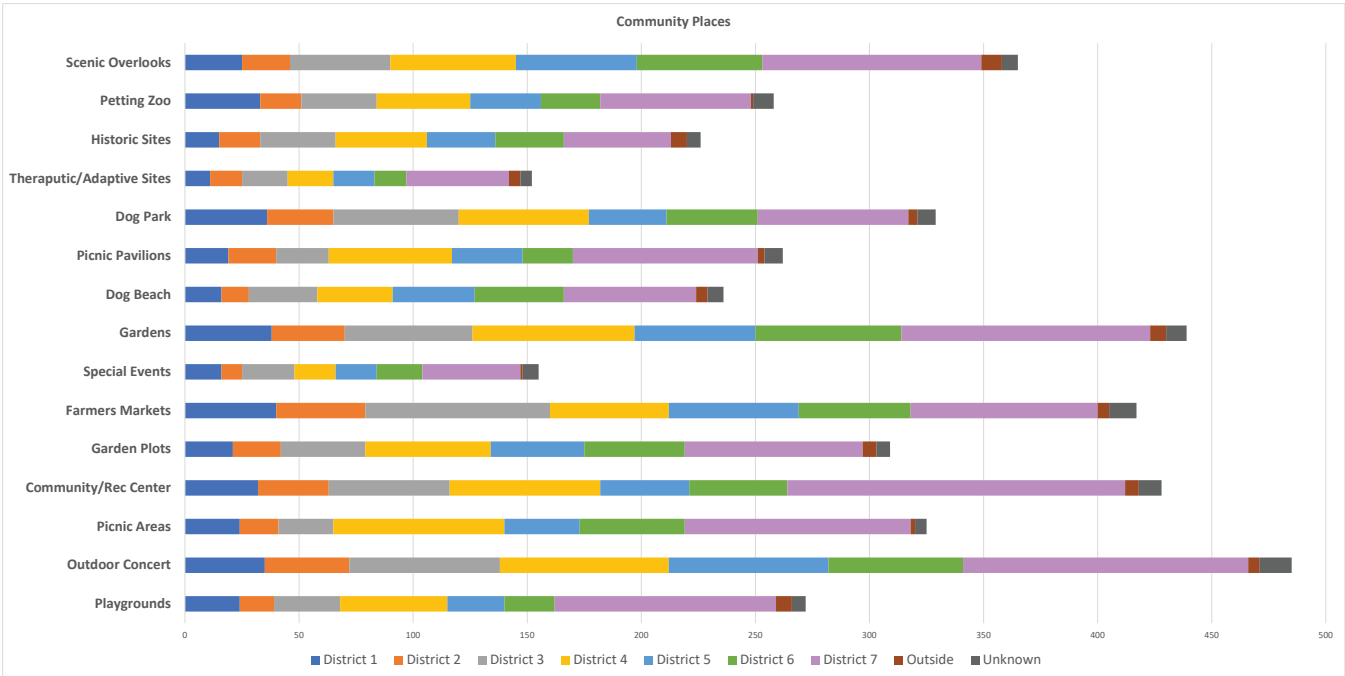
This question received a lot of inputs. People showed a high level of interest in Community Places.

Playgrounds, Picnic Areas, Farmers Markets and Scenic Overlooks see “regular use”. Outdoor Concert, Historic Sites, Gardens, Dog Parks, and Community Recreation Center are also popular destinations with survey respondents.

When asked “What kind(s) of community parks and places do you think are lacking in your area?” most frequently cited are Outdoor Concert/Theater Venue, Community Recreation Center, Petting Zoo, and Ornamental /Botanical Garden.

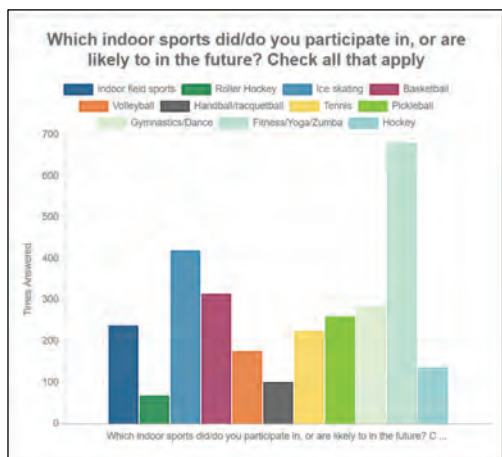
Figure C-11: Community Places -- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?

District	Play-grounds	Outdoor Concert	Picnic Areas	Community/ Rec Center	Garden Plots	Farmers Markets	Special Events	Gardens	Dog Beach	Picnic Pavilions	Dog Park	Therapeutic/ Adaptive Sites	Historic Sites	Petting Zoo	Scenic Overlooks
District 1	24	35	24	32	21	40	16	38	16	19	36	11	15	33	25
District 2	15	37	17	31	21	39	9	32	12	21	29	14	18	18	21
District 3	29	66	24	53	37	81	23	56	30	23	55	20	33	33	44
District 4	47	74	75	66	55	52	18	71	33	54	57	20	40	41	55
District 5	25	70	33	39	41	57	18	53	36	31	34	18	30	31	53
District 6	22	59	46	43	44	49	20	64	39	22	40	14	30	26	55
District 7	97	125	99	148	78	82	43	109	58	81	66	45	47	66	96
Outside	7	5	2	6	6	5	1	7	5	3	4	5	7	1	9
Unknown	6	14	5	10	6	12	7	9	7	8	8	5	6	9	7
Grand Total	272	485	325	428	309	417	155	439	236	262	329	152	226	258	365





## Participation & Limitations - Indoor Arena

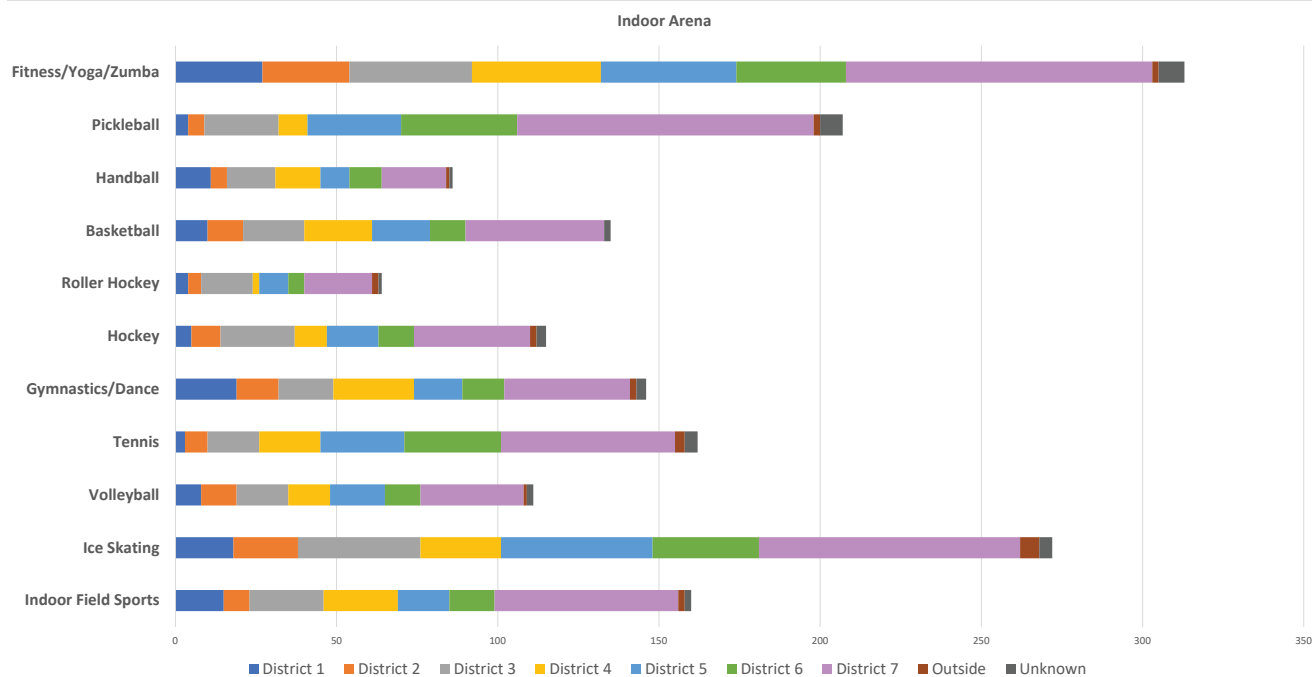


The Indoor and Arena sports that respondents are most likely to participate in, (or plan to) are Ice Skating and Zumba Dance.

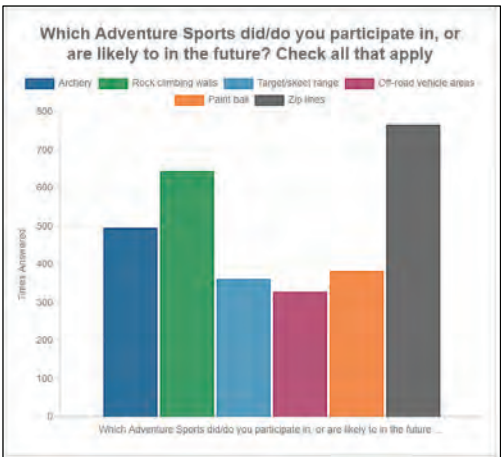
When asked what Indoor Arena sports would you be more likely to participate in if there were convenient opportunity/facility, respondents express an interest in Fitness/Yoga/Zumba, Ice Skating and Pickleball. Indoor field sports, Tennis and Gymnastics also received regular mention. Basketball, Volleyball, Handball/Racquetball and Roller Hockey round out the list.

Figure C-12: Indoor Arena -- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?

District	Indoor Field Sports	Ice Skating	Volleyball	Tennis	Gymnastics/Dance	Hockey	Roller Hockey	Basketball	Handball	Pickleball	Fitness/Yoga/Zumba	Tennis
District 1	15	18	8	3	19	5	4	10	11	4	27	5
District 2	8	20	11	7	13	9	4	11	5	5	27	6
District 3	23	38	16	16	17	23	16	19	15	23	38	21
District 4	23	25	13	19	25	10	2	21	14	9	40	30
District 5	16	47	17	26	15	16	9	18	9	29	42	32
District 6	14	33	11	30	13	11	5	11	10	36	34	46
District 7	57	81	32	54	39	36	21	43	20	92	95	62
Outside	2	6	1	3	2	2	2	0	1	2	2	2
Unknown	2	4	2	4	3	3	1	2	1	7	8	5
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>209</b>



# Participation & Limitations - Adventure Sports

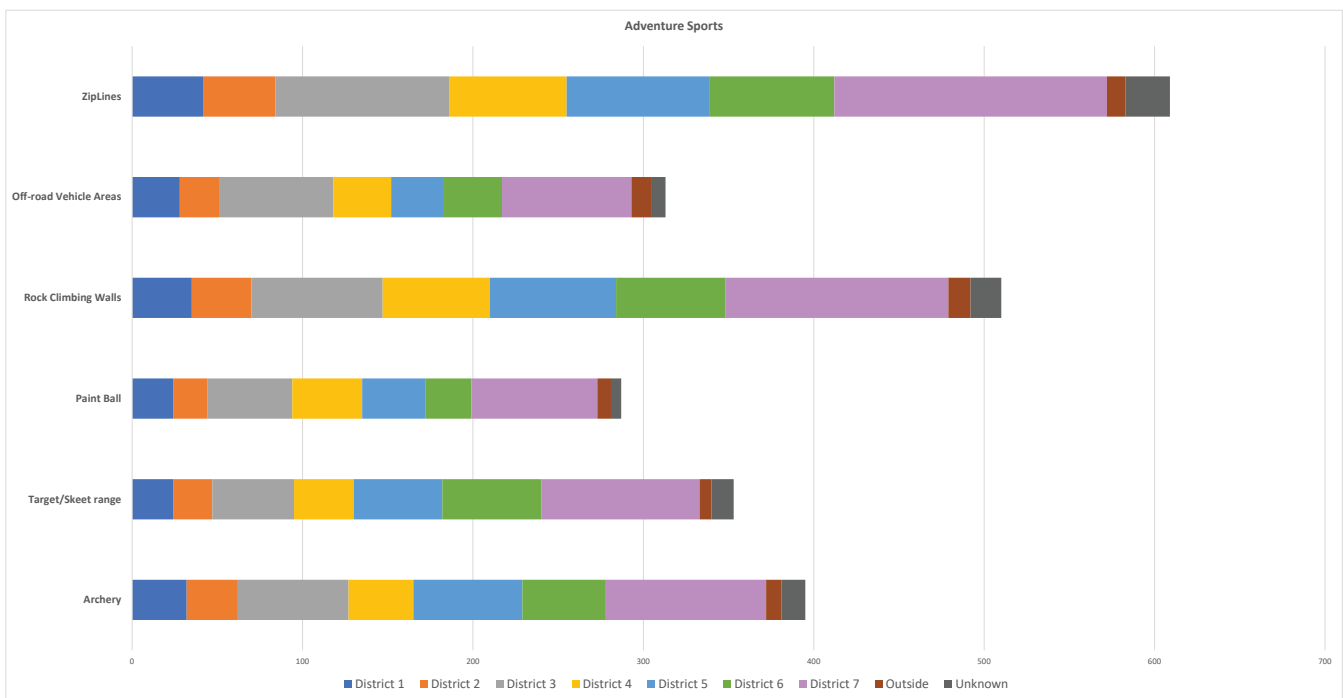


When asked about Adventure Sports participation, greatest interest is shown for zip lining and rock climbing facilities, however, all named Adventure Sports activities seem to have many advocates.

Zip lining and rock climbing are also the Adventure Sports activities that respondents say they would like participate in but cannot for lack of convenient facilities.

Figure C-13: Adventure Sports-- Are you prevented from participating because of lack of convenient places to play?

District	Archery	Target/Skeet range	Paint Ball	Rock Climbing Walls	Off-road Vehicle Areas	Zip Lines
District 1	32	24	24	35	28	42
District 2	30	23	20	35	23	42
District 3	65	48	50	77	67	102
District 4	38	35	41	63	34	69
District 5	64	52	37	74	31	84
District 6	49	58	27	64	34	73
District 7	94	93	74	131	76	160
Outside	9	7	8	13	12	11
Unknown	14	13	6	18	8	26
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>609</b>



**What do YOU think? In the future, which programs or recreation activities should the County be expanding?**



## How do you usually find out about County recreation and park facilities?

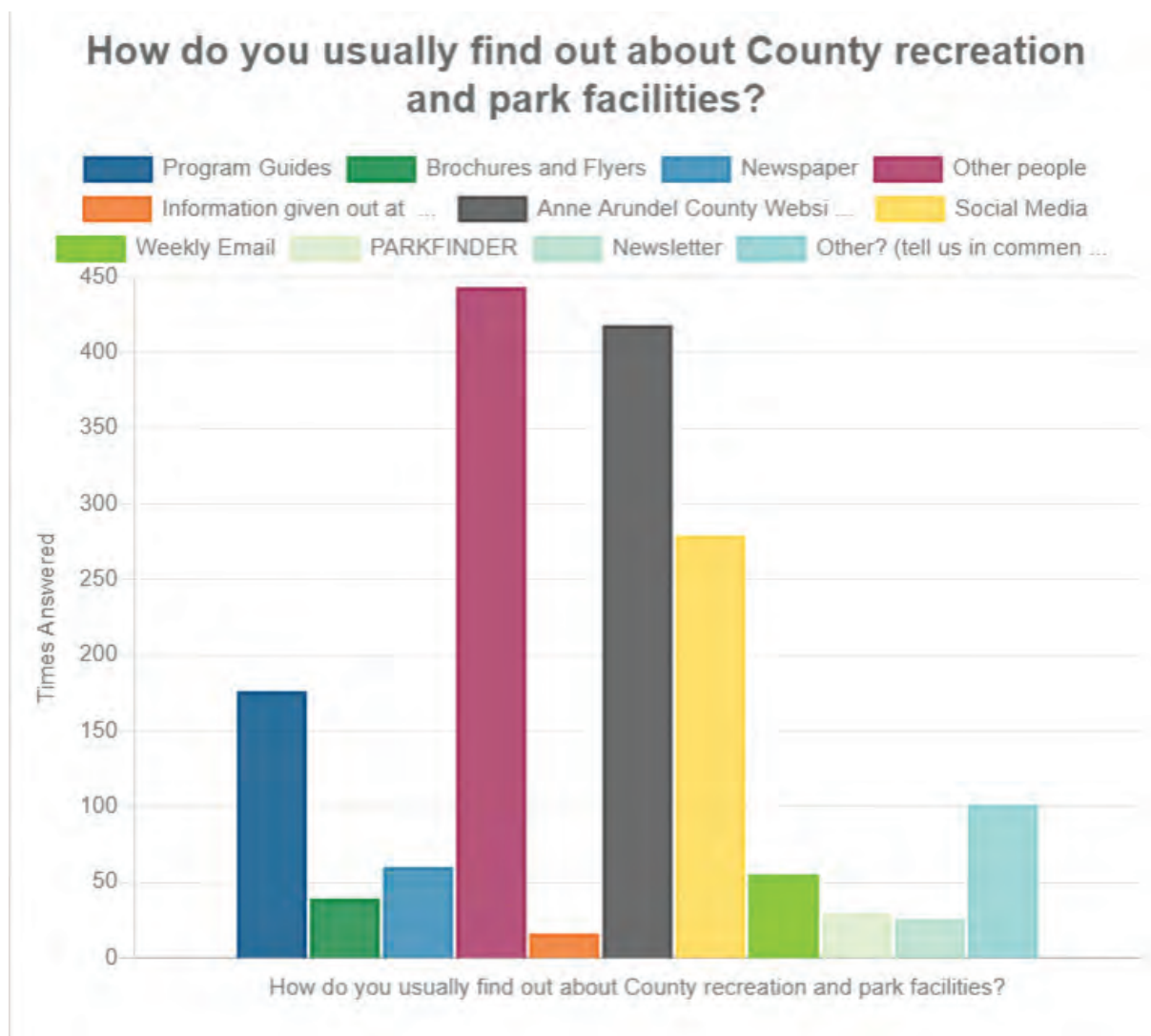


Figure C-14: *How do you usually find out about County recreation and park facilities?*

Type	Responses
Program Guides	176
Brochures and Fliers	39
Newspaper	60
Other people	443
Information given out at Schools	16
Anne Arundel County Website	418
Social Media	279
Weekly Email	55
PARKFINDER	29
Newsletter	25
Other? (Tell us in comment bubble)	101

Only 11 of the respondents who chose "other" left a comment. Several of those comments fell into the "other people" category. There were also several people who said that they find out about resources by just driving around. One person said they found out about water access through the Chesapeake Paddlers Association.



## Do you support the purchase or acquisition of additional land for future recreation and park facilities?

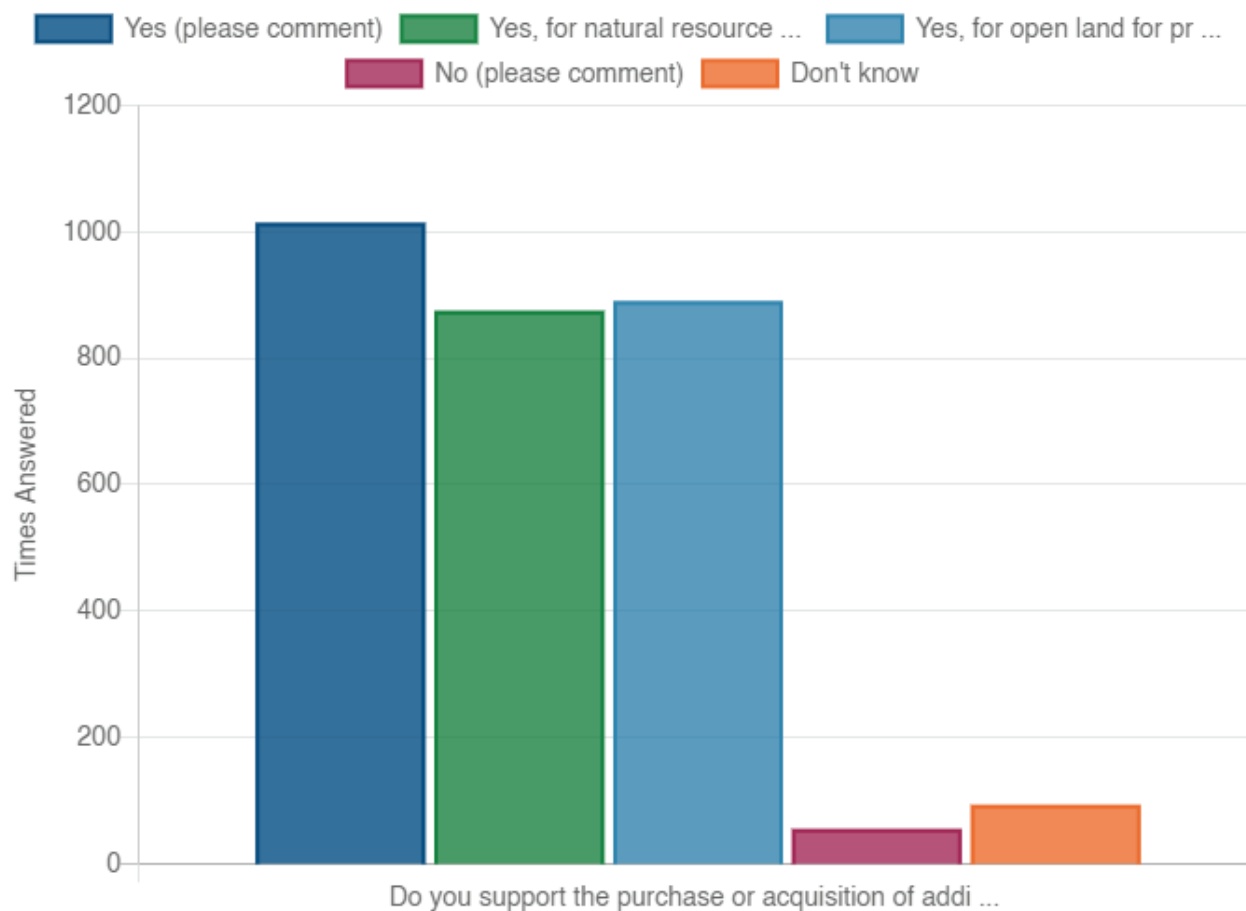


Figure C-15: *Do you support the purchase or acquisition of additional land for future recreation and park facilities?*

Answer	Responses
Yes (please comment)	1014
Yes, for natural resources land	875
Yes, for open land for preservation	890
No (please comment)	55
Don't know	93

The majority of the comments were in support of the acquisition of additional land. There was one comment that said to spend money on existing parks versus buying new land and one comment that said they only support land acquisition if its an efficient use of land. It should not be near transit.

### Do you feel safe when using County recreation and park facilities?



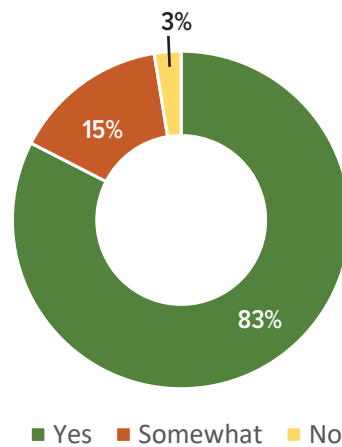
There were about 1,000 comments about safety in parks. The comments were assessed and most of them were able to fit into three different categories: Yes (83%), Somewhat (15%), and No (3%).

Many of the concerns about safety were in the following areas:

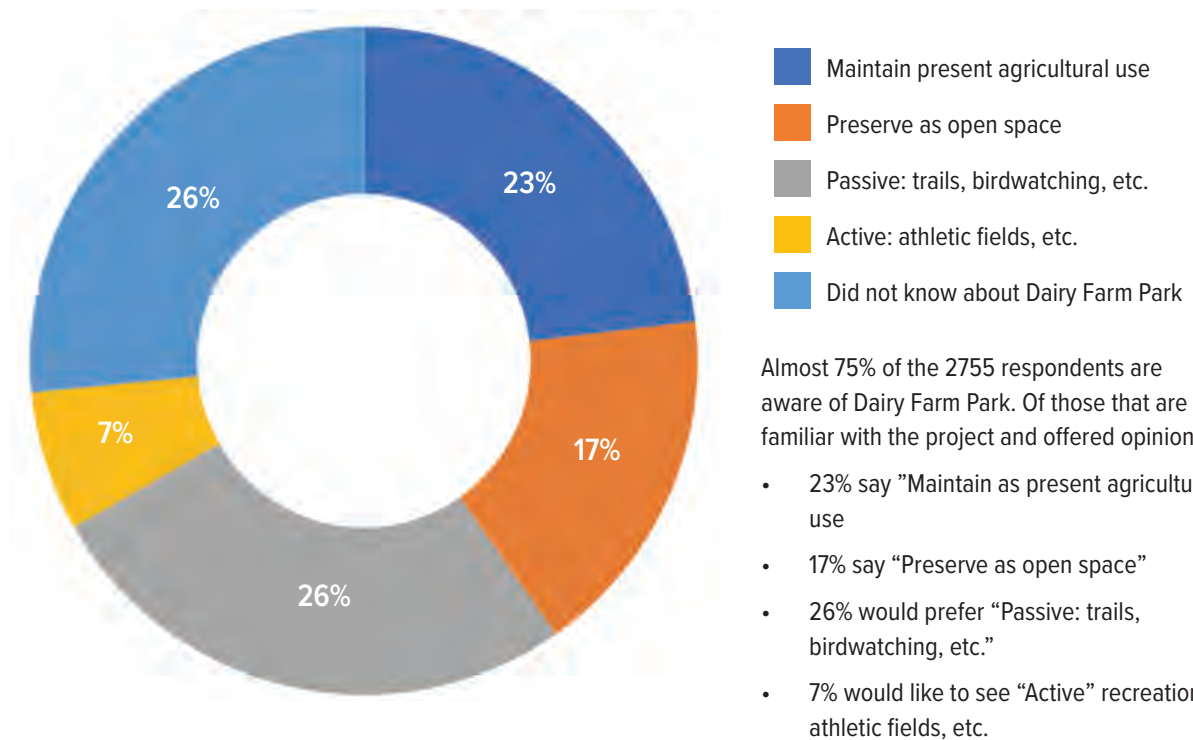
- Glen Burnie
- Truxtun
- Quiet Waters
- Crofton Park
- B&A Trail

There were also several comments and concerns about:

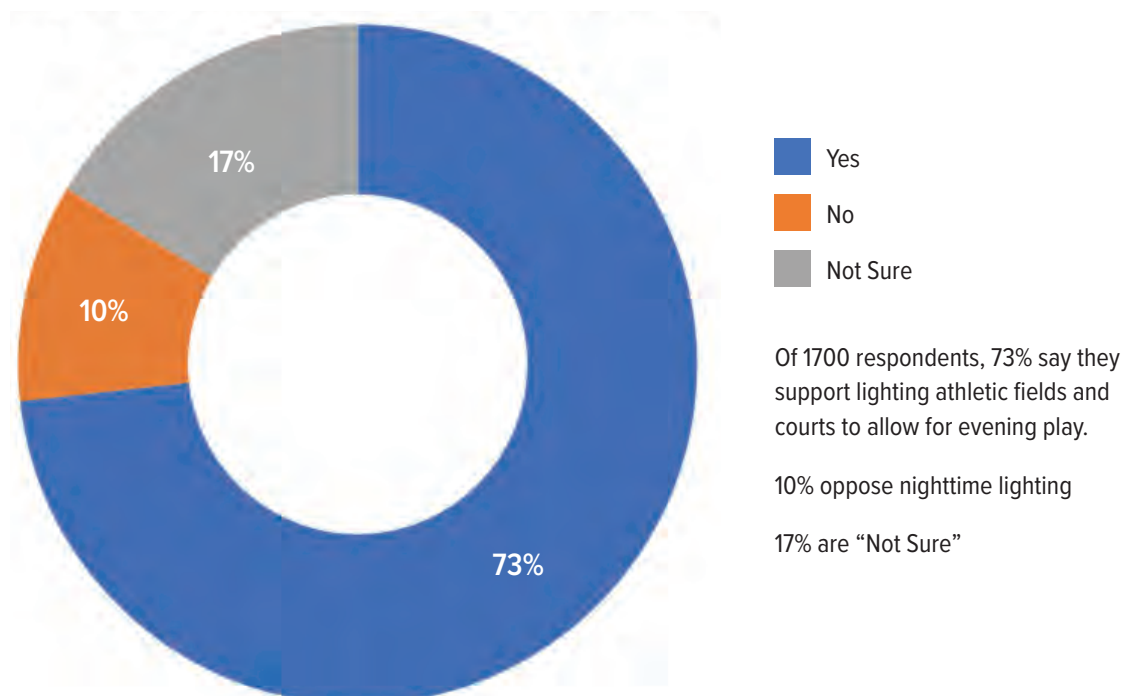
- Feeling safe during the day, but not at night
- Feeling unsafe alone, but safe with others
- Safety while walking and biking



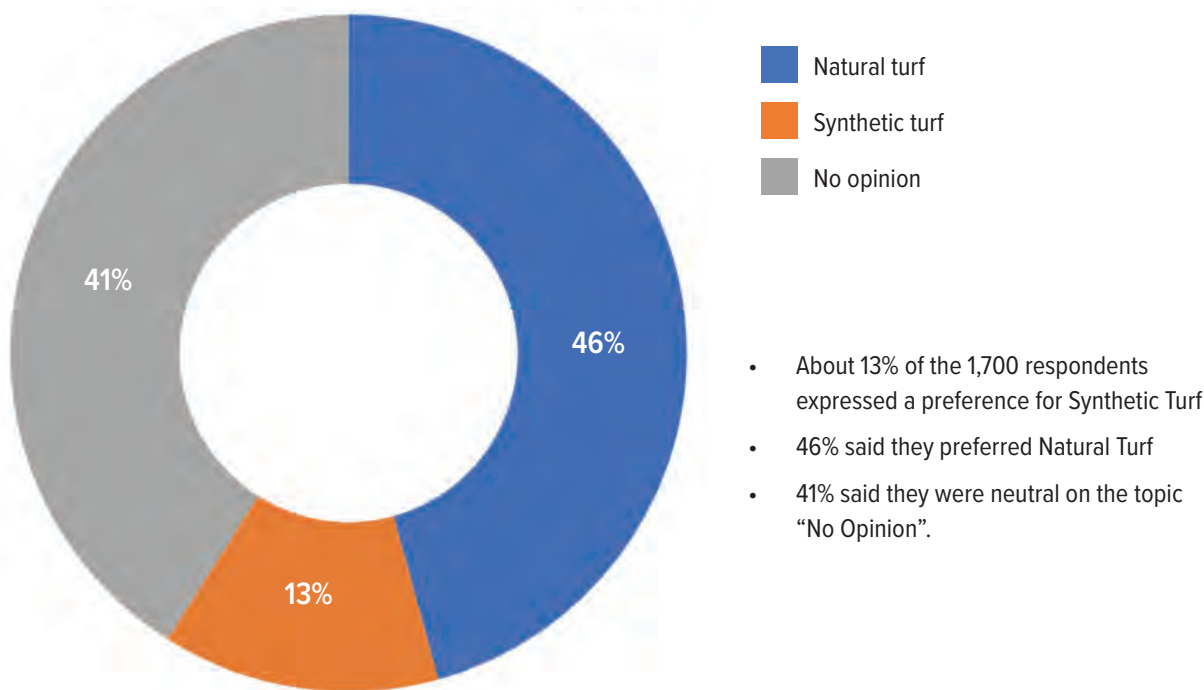
## Are you aware of the County's Dairy Farm Park in Gambrills? If so, what should the future use be?



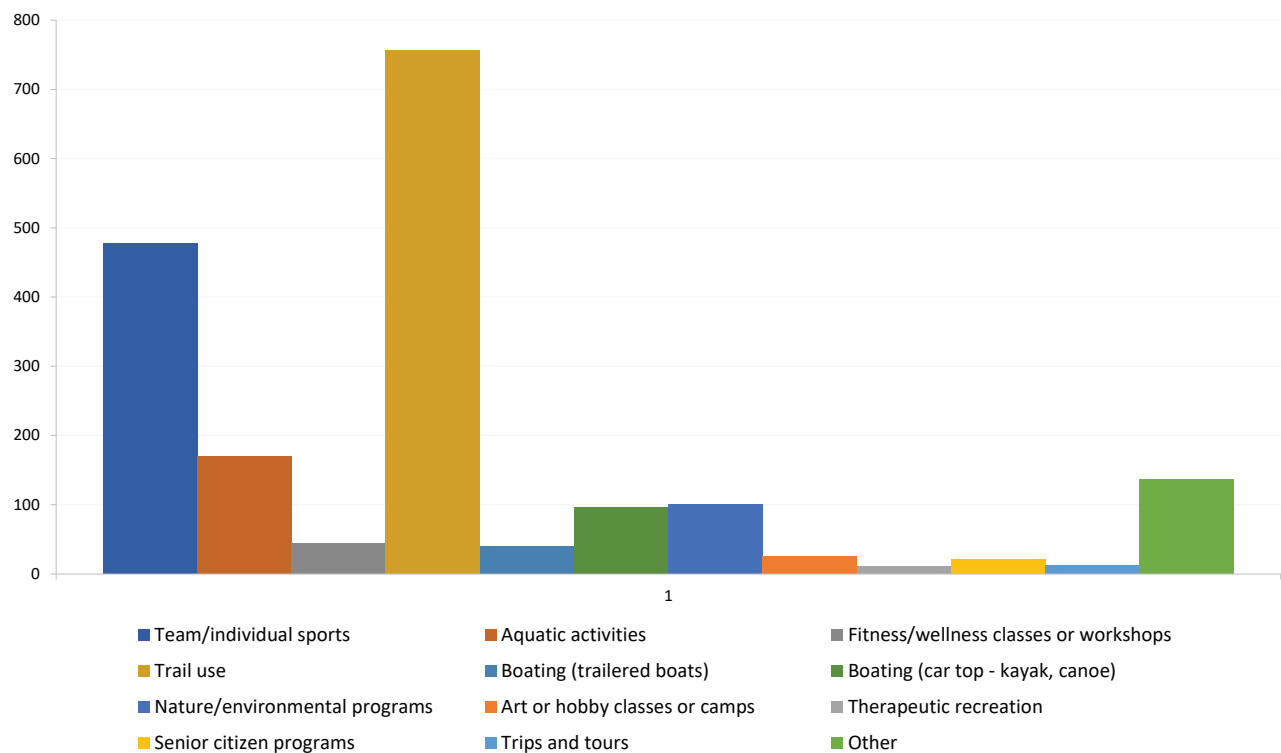
## Do you support lighting of athletic fields and sport courts to allow for evening play?



Do you support lighting of athletic fields and sport courts to allow for evening play?  
(This may reduce need to construct new facilities)



Name one activity that you have participated in or led at a County recreation facility or park.





# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DEPT. OF RECREATION & PARKS LPPRP 2022

## Synopsis Town Hall Listening Sessions Public Comments

### *Council District 1 - June 10, 2021 - 12 attendees*

- Nature exploration for younger children
- More open/green spaces
- Enjoy paved path at Brooklyn Park
- More “walkable” parks within communities
- Need trash cans/litter control at Brooklyn Park
- Dog park at Overlook Park
- Dog parks in District 1
- Need more trash cans in Overlook Park
- Dog park in Arundel Mills area
- Community gardens in Arundel Mills area
- Dog park in Provinces/Severn area
- Enjoy water activities
- Focus on waterfront opportunities
- Land preservation in North and West County
- More facilities in North and West County
- More bathroom facilities/portable toilets
- Security in neighborhood parks
- Upgrade trails to paved paths

### *Council District 2 - June 15, 2021 - 18 attendees*

- Transportation for ES/MS sports programs
- Parks in townhome neighborhoods
- Improved access to track facilities
- Warm season use of Ice Rinks
- Enhanced trail activities
- Access/more track & field facilities
- Outside swimming pools
- Expanded hours at NAAC
- More public water access
- Urban park in central Glen Burnie
- eSports activities

### *Council District 3 - July 8, 2021 - 16 attendees*

- Parks are awesome
- Maintenance of trails
- Native plant gardens (as at Kinder Farm Park)
- Connecting trails to parks/schools/libraries Rec areas within new housing areas
- Master Plan for Beachwood Park
- Address pollution at Lake Waterford
- Connect Magothy Greenway
- More green spaces
- Bocce courts
- Accessible playgrounds
- Open space/land preservation
- Improvements at Hancock’s Resolution
- Access to school facilities
- Facilities for dirt bikes
- Turf fields/Indoor facilities for tourney use
- Deer management
- Use of golf course properties for walking
- Safety improvements @ trail crossings
- Connect trails
- Organized birdwatching walks

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DEPT. OF RECREATION & PARKS LPPRP

## 2022 Synopsis Town Hall Listening Sessions Public Comments Cont'd

### *Council District 4 - June 17, 2021 - 35 attendees*

- More soccer fields
- Concerns about future use of Piney Orchard Ice Rink
- More turf fields Availability of track & field facilities
- Recreation facilities for senior residents
- Indoor sports facilities/playgrounds
- Community-focused parks
- More/improved sports fields
- Accessible playgrounds
- Multipurpose local parks
- Concerns about Dairy Farm development
- Indoor swimming
- Protect forested lands (Odenton Library)
- Sustainable maintenance practices
- Water access – Severn River (south shore)
- Protect green area at Valentine Creek

### *Council District 5 - June 22, 2021 - 32 attendees*

- More walking trails
- Passive uses for Spriggs Farm Park
- Increased acquisition of open spaces
- Public water access
- Enhancement of Jonas Green Park
- Expand access to adaptive sports
- Non-school access to track & field facilities
- Indoor/outdoor track & field
- Interconnected trail systems (State/local)
- Interest in “Freshfields” site for conservation
- Safety for walkers on trails
- Trails at Arnold Park
- Neighborhood connections to parks & trails
- Indoor tennis facilities
- Annual park pass portability
- Bike park/mountain biking/pump track
- More historic/interpretive sites

### *Council District 6 - July 13, 2021 - 11 attendees*

- Youth track & field programs
- Track & field facilities - indoor & outdoor
- Play spaces in County parks

### *Council District 7 - July 15, 2021 - 54 attendees*

- Recreation center in Deale
- Sands Road Park renovation & added amenities
- Large community gathering place
- Added pickleball courts - indoor & outdoor
- Galesville tennis courts improvements
- Explore private-owned sports fields
- Use of school track & field facilities
- Environmental protection at Beverly Triton Nature Park
- Conservation of forested lands
- More water access
- Galesville pickleball courts/trails/youth activities
- Lothian parks and recreation facilities
- More playgrounds/spaces for younger children
- Acquisition of natural resource areas
- Additional swimming pool capacity
- Expand Park Pass system to B-T
- More walking/hiking/biking trails
- Agricultural land conservation
- Multi-use park facilities
- Wildlife preservation
- Davidsonville area bike trails
- Address inequities in park locations
- Expansion of Loch Haven Park
- Consider acquisition of developed land
- Sustainable buildings in park facilities
- Modernize Crofton area parks
- Development of Crofton Natural Area
- Offer youth track & field programs
- Encouragement of wind sports

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DEPT. OF RECREATION & PARKS LPPRP

## 2022 Synopsis Town Hall Listening Sessions Public Comments Cont'd

### *Countywide - 2/15/22 Town Hall meeting*

#### Summary of resident comments

- Support track and field programs - need for indoor track facility
- Opposed to athletic fields at Millersville Park
- President of Annapolis Pickleball Club - need for lights on pickleball courts
- AA County Tennis Association - OK with dual use for tennis and pickleball - favor of making courts at Peninsula Park and Bestgate Park pickleball only
- Pickleball courts - need for lighted courts and indoor courts
- Peninsula Park plans - concerns with lighting, “downturn in youth baseball”, use best practices for storm water management
- Support for indoor tennis center - increased water access, especially Eastport
- Millersville Park - remove plans for large athletic complex
- Support for indoor tennis center
- Sunset Park - concerns with maintenance issues
- Concerns over access to Kings Branch Nature Area
- More lax fields - fields in general
- More lax fields
- Concerns about plans for Peninsula Park
- Support for rowing facilities

### *Countywide - 2/24/22 Town Hall meeting*

#### Summary of resident comments

- Support for indoor tennis center (multiple residents)
- Opposed to athletic complex at Millersville site
- Questions about traffic studies
- Concern for response to climate change
- Need for benches and portable toilets at HS tennis courts
- Recreational facilities for the elderly
- Lighting concerns at Lake Shore Athletic Complex (two residents)
- Request for additional dog parks in Pasadena/Rivera Beach - suggest Fort Smallwood and Freetown Parks
- Expedite completion of South Shore Trail, restoration of Ranger House at SST

**Appendix C:**  
**Public Engagement**  
*Middle School Recreation*  
*& Parks Survey*



## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Davidsonville Park	No	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	More recreational areas meeting safety and security measures
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park	Recreation Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	,ponds,animals,more parks,plants,flowers,
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Zip lines and a track field and more flowers and plants.
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park		Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Sandy Point State Park	No		Community Space	Fields	Nothing really
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Sandy Point State Park	N/A	Ice skating	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Thomas Point Park	Quiet Waters	Swimming	Natural Areas	Trash	More trails and improving the older ones
Grade 6	Annapolis MS	Truxton Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	Basketball and horse riding
Grade 6	Arundel MS	GORC	Odenton Natural Area	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I would like to see a treetop adventure/ziplining course. I like the idea of being able to climb and explore!
Grade 6	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Food stands, more ice cream trucks, New basketball courts, upgraded playground, more safety precautions.
Grade 6	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	More fun activities
Grade 6	Arundel MS	Quiet Waters Park	Downs Park	Swimming	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Arundel MS	Towers Branch Dog Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I think more parks by the beach would be nice.
Grade 6	Arundel MS		Not yet	Swimming	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	Maybe a teen night out every weekend. Ages 10-14 with lots of things to do. Bball dance arts crafts ping pong air hockey
Grade 6	Arundel MS		Not sure	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Bates MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Coastal theme climbing wall
Grade 6	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	I would like to see FREE swimming pools in parks like Quiet Waters.
Grade 6	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	Tawes Garden, if it counts.	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	Maybe a cafe in some of the larger parks (like quiet waters) where you can get water when you're thirsty.
Grade 6	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	Davidsonville	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	I dont know if it counts, but I like to go down to Greenberry point.	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure and Natural	I would like to see them being more full of native animals and plants. Also more areas to see everything from above. Also more fun education about how important the parks and nature are!!
Grade 6	Brooklyn Park MS	Bacon Ridge Park, Bike Trail, AA County	No.	Ice skating	Adventure Sports	Water sports	I dunno but maybe like a few more bike trails. I know that the one down near odenton elementary that church thing is gonna be connected through or something but I think that it'd still be cool for there to be a few more around.
Grade 6	Brooklyn Park MS	Brooklyn park on 10th ave	Fort Smallwood	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Bathrooms, picnic areas and hiking trails
Grade 6	Brooklyn Park MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Elvaton Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More flowers and other things to take pictures of
Grade 6	Brooklyn Park MS	Lake Waterford Park	Kinder Farm Park	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Brooklyn Park MS	Lindale	Andover	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	Nicer parks in the North part of AAco.
Grade 6	Central MS	Crofton Park	Jug Bay	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	DAA	Quiet waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Bike paths and trails, indoor fields
Grade 6	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	Crofton	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	No	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	More ice rinks
Grade 6	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	No	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	More ice rinks
Grade 6	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	Riva Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	Edgewater Park	Quiet Waters Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Police	More police. It's not safe by my house at Edgewater park.
Grade 6	Central MS	Edgewater Park	Tracey's Landing		Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 6	Central MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quite Waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	I would love to see splash pads and more pools.
Grade 6	Central MS	Kinder farm park	Watkins park in pg county	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	More water activityâ€™s and more playgrounds please.
Grade 6	Central MS	Londontowne Gardens	Mayo Beach	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More Outdoor programs for Teens/Tweens
Grade 6	Central MS	Parks that have basketball courts and tennis courts	No		Outdoor games	Fields	More basketball courts around Edgewater
Grade 6	Central MS	Peninsula Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	Splash pads, outdoor sports
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Beverly Triton Beach	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Davidsonville park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More bike trails built and and a community build one where the community comes out to make there own trail.
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Triton Beach Park	Swimming	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Jug bay	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Maybe a rock climbing program and some more outdoor sport courts but other than that I like how the park I go to are now.
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park		Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	Scooter/Skate park
Grade 6	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Sandy beach park	Regional Park	Water	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More thing family can do togt
Grade 6	Central MS	Riva Park	My second favorite park is davidsonville park!!	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	I would like to see more dog parks and bikeing trails!
Grade 6	Central MS	Riva Park	DAA Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Bigger Play Grounds
Grade 6	Central MS	The red park	Parks are cool so I'm not sure		Community Space	Environmental	Animals
Grade 6	Central MS		No		Adventure Sports	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More natural environments
Grade 6	Central MS		I don't know	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	I don't know
Grade 6	Central MS			Ice skating	Natural Areas	Indoor Courts	more opportunity to play volleyball, instructional league
Grade 6	Central MS				Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park		Swimming	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I like to mountain bike on trails and we do not have any near me in Pasadena
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	lake waterfir park		Water	Water sports	
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Downs Memorial Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Splash pads, nature watch areas
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Downs Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Indoor Courts	More indoor basketball courts
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Jacobsville	Lake shore	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Table and benches to relax
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs	Regional Park	Community Space	Fields	
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Kinder Farm Park	Down's Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	We like to walk along the beaches and get in the water so areas on the beach were we can do that.
Grade 6	Chesapeake Bay MS	Lake Waterford Park	Ft. Smallwood	Swimming	Water	Water sports	More dog parks
Grade 6	Corkran MS	Downs Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	A playground
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Kinder farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More activities for older kid ages
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Kinder farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	None
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Fort Smallwood Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Lighted baseball fields at Havenwood Park.
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Kinder Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More methods to observe wild life and more availability to rent paddle boats, kayaks, or Canoes at Ft. Small wood or a local park. Currently, Quiet Water is the only park with that option.
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Ice Skating	none	Ice skating	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Kinder Farm Park	Ft Smallwood	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	George Fox MS	Sunset Park	havenwood	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	more football and baseball fields with lights so my games dont get cut short.

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 6	Lindale MS	Kinder Farm Park	Andover Rec Field	Ice skating	Outdoor games	All of the above (in north)	I attend Lindale MS and the back field and track is in desperate need of repair. It would be great to enjoy a nice field and track in our neighborhood.
Grade 6	Lindale MS	Linthicum		Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Lindale MS	Long Gate playground		Ice skating	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 6	Lindale MS	Overlook park	Linthicum park	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Also more adventure sports
Grade 6	Lindale MS				Water	Water sports	
Grade 6	Lindale MS			Ice skating	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 6	MacArthur MS		Matthewstown/Harman's	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	MacArthur MS			Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Magothy River MS	Broadneck Park	Bayhead Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	I would like to see more outdoor volleyball courts. we have none local to us to practice outside, when the indoor facilities are closed.
Grade 6	Magothy River MS	Broadneck Park	Arnold Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Indoor Courts	
Grade 6	Magothy River MS	Broadneck Park	Mago vista	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	more outdoor basketball courts
Grade 6	Magothy River MS	Kinder Farm Park	quiet waters	Swimming	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Marley MS	Kinder Farm Park		Swimming	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Marley MS	Kinder Farm Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Marley MS	Patapsco Valley State Park - Avalon Area in Maryland.	Lake Waterford	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	To see more natural areas like mountain climbing hiking etc.
Grade 6	Marley MS	Patapsco Valley State Park - Avalon Area in Maryland.	Downs Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More Play ground equipment for Older kids to play on.
Grade 6	Old Mill North MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Kinder	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Old Mill North MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Kinder farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More splash pads and older kids appropriate items.
Grade 6	Old Mill North MS	Severn Danza Park	Not yet		Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	Bigger playgrounds that support older kids and adults
Grade 6	Old Mill North MS			Regional Park	Water	Water sports	
Grade 6	Old Mill South MS	Downs Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Outdoor sports	Tennis court
Grade 6	Old Mill South MS	Severn Danza Park	Severna park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 6	Old Mill South MS		No		Water	Adventure Sports	The parks in AA county don't offer much. I rarely go to them because I get bored at them really quick. You should visit some Montgomery County Parks for ideas.
Grade 6	other	Anne Arundel County Park	Howard County Park	Swimming	Community Space	Water sports	More gardens, trees, and snack stands!
Grade 6	other	Bacon town park	Brock bridge		Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	More places for swimming and basketball in laurel
Grade 6	other	Bell Branch Park	Swan Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 6	other	Beverly Triton Nature Park	Bell Branch	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Water and Adventure	I would like to see more water activities, mountain hiking trials, and I would like to continue seeing playgrounds, dog parks, etc.
Grade 6	other	Broadneck Park	kinder park	Regional Park	Community Space	Skate park	PG county has all the good parks. Allen's pond and Walker mill regional park are awesome. My family barely will go to a park in AA county because they aren't very good. Howard County parks are also way better than both both farther away. The only good park in Anne Arundel county is Truxtun park and that is city of Annapolis.
Grade 6	other	Crofton Park	no	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	i would like to see lots of different areas kids could climb on and run around on.
Grade 6	other	Crofton Park	Bell Branch	Swimming	Water	Water sports	
Grade 6	other	Downs Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Maybe something like a passport where we get points/incentives or rewards for visiting or reduced fees for families to visit on certain days like Mondays and Tuesdays.
Grade 6	other	Harmans Park	Airport loop park/trail	Swimming	Outdoor games	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	other	Kinder Farm Park	quiet waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Slides	old school merry go rounds and seesaws
Grade 6	other	Kinder Farm Park	North Point	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	School should go there more often
Grade 6	other	Quiet Waters Park	Kinderfarm	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	More zip lines, for ages from around 5-100, with the proper cautions, and more areas that someone could put a kayak into the water without skidding down a cliff.
Grade 6	other	Quiet Waters Park	kinder farm park	Swimming	Water	Water sports	add more old school merry go rounds and seesaws. make all playgrounds rust free including: poles, swings, monkey bars, etc

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 6	other	Swan Park	Patapsco	Regional Park	Water	Fields	Signs telling you more about the nature in the parks.
Grade 6	other		No		Water	Water sports	Closer parks with pools and aquatic centers to North Laurel
Grade 6	other		No	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Beverly Triton Nature Park	Downs	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Arnold Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Mago Vista Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More boat ramps
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More sports fields.
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	quiet waters	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	No		Outdoor games	Fields	Lots of people are littering and so I want myself and others to bring trash bags and clean up whatever litter we see.
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Downs Park	Quiet Water's	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet waters	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	Fun camps for middle schoolers
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Kinder farm park	Quiet Waters park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Kinder farm park	Quiet Waters park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Severn River MS	Sprigs Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	Paintball
Grade 6	Severn River MS			Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Mountain bike trails
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Fort Smallwood Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I would love to see more wildlife, trees, and natural grass. I would also like to see less pollution and cars.
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	cypress creek		Natural Areas	Water sports	
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More flowers along trails and near the playgrounds would be pretty.
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	a place to swim in the rivers
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Bacon Ridge	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	Water and adventure activities
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Broadneck park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Pickleball courts
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder farm park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Less trash	I would like to see a place to play paintball
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Water sports	more ziplines and rock climbing walls
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	kinder farm park	no		Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	More places for sports.
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Lake Waterford Park	Kinder park	Swimming	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More swimming/adventure activities
Grade 6	Severna Park MS	Quiet Waters Park	Terrapin nature park	Swimming	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More areas to play and just enjoy nature in.
Grade 6	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park		Regional Park	Natural Areas	Fields	There are no county parks close to where I live. It would be nice if there were more playing fields in Lothian
Grade 6	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park	Bacon Ridge Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	A swimming pool in Deale
Grade 6	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park			Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 6	Southern MS	Tracey's	Davidsonville	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More turf feilds
Grade 6	Southern MS				Outdoor games	Fields	No masks
Grade 6	Southern MS			Ice skating	Water	Water sports	Water Parks
Grade 7	Annapolis MS	Barbara Swann Park	Bell Branch Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	We love to go on hikes with our dog. It would be great to have more trails with intermittent activities.
Grade 7	Annapolis MS	PAL Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	a turf field at PAL
Grade 7	Arundel MS	Crofton Park	No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	A community pool, or a bike trail.
Grade 7	Arundel MS	Downs Park	No Downs is the only park I have visited	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Variety of activities
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	Kinder Farm Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	As I said above I would love to see more softball fields and teams in the area.
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Outdoor sports	
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	Terrpian	Ice skating	Community Space	Indoor Courts	Snack bar



## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	Laurel skateboard park//Allen pond skate board park	Golf	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	Tennis , and boating with sailing or motor
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More hiking paths
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More hiking paths
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	I would like to see more pools in the county parks.
Grade 7	Arundel MS	GORC	No.		Community Space	Adventure Sports	Nothing else.
Grade 7	Arundel MS	Piney Orchard Park	Patuxent Pond Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I would like to see more cleanliness. Maybe even some relaxing spots with pretty views.
Grade 7	Arundel MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Camping areas
Grade 7	Arundel MS	Quiet Waters Park	no	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	i can't pick two but more adventure spots and nature areas would be great
Grade 7	Arundel MS		No				I live in Odenton and there are no parks that are close to us, other than GORC.
Grade 7	Bates MS	Arundel Olympic Aquatic Center	none	Swimming	Water	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Bates MS	Broadneck Park	Tick neck park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	
Grade 7	Bates MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Ice skating	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I thinks great the way it is
Grade 7	Bates MS	Pip Moyer Center	No	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park		Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Bates MS	Truxton Park	Pal	Ice skating	Community Space	Indoor Courts	A place for kids to hang out my age
Grade 7	Brooklyn Park MS	Downs Park	Fort Small Wood	Regional Park	Community Space	Fields	More areas for the Community to come together, sports fields, water areas, exhibits, etc.
Grade 7	Brooklyn Park MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Brooklyn park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Lower sports feea
Grade 7	Brooklyn Park MS	Provinces Park	Severn Danza Park	Swimming	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 7	Brooklyn Park MS	Quiet Waters Park	no	Swimming	Water	Water sports	
Grade 7	Central MS	B&A Trail	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Bike	more hiking trails
Grade 7	Central MS	Beverly Triton Nature Park	Sandy Point State Park		Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	I would love to see improvement on litter around the parks. Maybe we could accomplish this by adding more trash areas around parks, and scheduling days where a few people from the community can help pick up litter.
Grade 7	Central MS	Beverly Triton Nature Park	none	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	mountain biking
Grade 7	Central MS	DAA	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	There are not enough indoor spaces for gym rentals for basketball in Anne Arundel County.
Grade 7	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	Bell branch	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	More turf fields
Grade 7	Central MS	Edgewater park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Playgrounds for older kids
Grade 7	Central MS	Loch Haven Park	Riva	Ice skating	Indoor games	Indoor Courts	Need indoor space so we can play sports all year long and not have to travel to Crofton or pay for teams to pay for space a long way from home
Grade 7	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinderfarm	Regional Park	Community Space	Outdoor sports	
Grade 7	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	More dog friendly places
Grade 7	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	South River Farms	Ice skating	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Central MS	Swan Park	Bell Branch			Adventure Sports	More soccer fields
Grade 7	Central MS			Swimming	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More recycling cans
Grade 7	Central MS			Swimming	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More recycling cans
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Skate park	Dog Parks at Downs Park fully fenced in.
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Beechwood	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	We need a mountain bike area and trail like HoCo has with Rockburn
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Jacobsville Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More hiking-nature trails
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Woods Road Park in Pasadena	Regional Park	Community Space	Archery	
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Kinder Farm Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Taller Swings, teenage play sets, spinning rides
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Lake Waterford	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Downs Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More volunteering to help clean up, more organized events!
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs boat ramp	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	Less about sports, more for boating and water access.
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Kinder Farm Park			Adventure Sports	ATV	
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Lake Shore Athletic Park	Bodkin		Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Lake Waterford Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	More swing sets

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Rock Creek / Bar Harbor		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS	Waterford	Sawmill	Golf	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	Off leash dog park closer to my house, more spots for middle school or high school age, indoor rec. courts and safe evening hang out spots
Grade 7	Chesapeake Bay MS			Ice skating		Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Corkran MS	Aquatic Center in Glen Burnie	Sandy Point by Bay Bridge	Swimming	Water	Water sports	Outdoor swimming pools and waterparks for teens that is safe.
Grade 7	Corkran MS		No	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 7	George Fox MS	Bodkin	Lake Waterford	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	Sports facility like spooky nook in PA
Grade 7	George Fox MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs park	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	Zip lines
Grade 7	George Fox MS		N/a	Regional Park	Indoor games	Indoor Courts	Better basketball rims
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Downs Park	Waterford	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Fishing	
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Downs Park	State Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More benches
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Kinder Farm Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Kinder Farm Park	Sawmill Creek Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Covered Picnic areas
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Lake Waterford Park	No	Swimming	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Lindale MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farms	Golf	Outdoor games	Hiking and water	More swimming areas for dogs and more nature centers with animals
Grade 7	MacArthur MS	Quiet Waters Park	Downs	Regional Park	Community Space	Dog parks	More places I can play with my dogs.
Grade 7	MacArthur MS			Golf	Adventure Sports	Outdoor sports	
Grade 7	MacArthur MS			Swimming	Community Space	Shade	WE DONT GET TO GO OUT TO THE PARK ALOT BECAUSE OF THE HEAT SO A SHADE TO COVER THE ENTIRE PARK
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Broadneck Park	I have only been to Broadneck Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	I would like to see an outdoors place to read books that would be quite and a community flower garden that is concealed by trees that is more private as an area to hang out or to rent out for events, letting us use the funds from renting out the space to improve the park in places needed.
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Not really.	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	More trash cans.
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Truxton Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Quiet Waters Park	Broadneck Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	more bike trails
Grade 7	Magothy River MS	Sprigs Farm Park	Broadneck	Ice skating	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Marley MS			Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	More things for dogs
Grade 7	Meade MS	Provinces Park	Race Rd Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More community fairs, parades, music shows, that kind of stuff
Grade 7	Meade MS				Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS	B&A Trail	Kinder Farm Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	Basketball courts
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS	Downs Park	Lake waterford	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More paths to walk by the water and through forrests.
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS	Severn Danza Park	Provinces Park	Swimming	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS	Severn Danza Park	Jessup	Swimming	Outdoor games	Water sports	
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS			Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Old Mill North MS						
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Bacon Ridge Park, Bike Trail, AA County	Crofton Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	More fields, biking trails, and bigger playgrounds
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Bacon Ridge Park, Bike Trail, AA County	Crofton Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	More fields, biking trails, and bigger playgrounds
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Bell Branch Park	Crownsville	Swimming	Outdoor games	Fields	Improvements to bathrooms and port a potty maintenance. People are using the woods to relieve themselves
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Bell Branch Park	Crownsville		Community Space	Accesibility	Art
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Bell Branch Park	Crownsville bike trail	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	Improvements so large families can do multiple activities, include disabled children and have access to clean bathrooms.
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Downs Park	Home port Farm Park	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	More places to launch kayaks, fish and launch boats.

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Downs Park	I also went camping at Fort Smallwood and it is really nice.	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I would like to see more animals and things that younger children can play on.
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Downs Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Bathrooms	
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Kinder Farm Park	Severn Danza	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Lake Waterford Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Accessibility	More walking trails; special needs bikes for rental; more outdoor sports
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Swimming	Community Space	Water sports	A lot of times my family and I go to other counties because they have better hiking. We like to bring our dog with us hiking so dog-friendly (on a leash) would be good. We also like the covered playground at Kinder Farm. That's nice especially in the summer. More playgrounds should have shade.
Grade 7	Old Mill South MS		no		Adventure Sports		I don't know
Grade 7	other	Bell Branch Park	GORC Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 7	other	Crofton Park		Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Something close to bike to - I live off of Reidel and there is no place for us to ride our bikes.
Grade 7	other	Crofton Park	Swan Park		Community Space	Adventure Sports	I would like to see more equipment and more fun activities at parks.
Grade 7	other	Davidsonville Park		Swimming	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Parks with no pets allowed
Grade 7	other	GORC			Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	More indoor and outdoor basketball courts
Grade 7	other	Kinder Farm Park	Beverly Triton	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	other	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters park	Swimming	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 7	other	Maryland Dog Park			Community Space	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	other	Queenstown Park	Sawmill Park	Swimming	Water	Indoor Courts	More community centers with gyms for indoor games
Grade 7	other	Quiet Waters Park	Bell Branch	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	I like to walk so more hiking paths
Grade 7	other	Quiet Waters Park	North Arundel	Ice skating	Adventure Sports	Water sports	
Grade 7	other	Quiet Waters Park	No	Ice skating	Water	Adventure Sports	Maybe different types of swings and more picnic tables
Grade 7	other		My answer is the same for the second question that I chose for the first.	Ice skating	Indoor games	Indoor Courts	I'd like see a park with a fun indoor and outdoor.
Grade 7	other		I don't go to parks	Swimming	Water	Adventure Sports	I'm not really sure
Grade 7	other					Water sports	volleyball league
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Sandy Point		Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More climbable trees
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Kinder Farm Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Howard County has nicer fields than Anne Arundel. Go there and look at there parks
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Indoor Courts	
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Sandy Point State Park	Terrapin national sate park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Involves people to do yoga or clean up together
Grade 7	Severn River MS	Sandy Point State Park	Terrapin national sate park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Involves people to do yoga or clean up together
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Downs Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Outdoor sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Lake watergord	Swimming	Community Space	Bike paths	Zip lines
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs and Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More Dog parks and ropes course or climbing would great. Above I have been to other parks skating and boating but you have it set up to only allow one pick
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park		Ice skating	Outdoor games	Water sports	dog parks
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	no	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	To be able to select more than one answer above
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs Waterford or something like that	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Better playgrounds that are fun. (And have good swings and lots of them)
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More reptiles
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Elvaton	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	I would like to see more areas for congregation, like tables and benches.
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Glen Burnie Ice Rink	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Yes, rockburn park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Would love to see a mountain bike park liek rockburn in kinder
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	no	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Broadneck Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	North Arundel Aquatic Center	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I would love to see more bike paths and sidewalks or paths to get to them by bike from the Baltimore Railroad bike path.
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Cypress	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Better maintenance, overall aesthetic
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Sandy Point State Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	
Grade 7	Severna Park MS	Waterfront Park	Kinder Farm Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Swimming pools
Grade 7	Southern MS	Dunkirk District Park		Swimming	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Southern MS	Dunkirk District Park	there are no parks close to my house			Fields	a park in the Lothian area since there are a lot of kids here
Grade 7	Southern MS	Jug Bay			Natural Areas	Water sports	Teen camps
Grade 7	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 7	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park	Jack creek park	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	I think more adventure sports like rock climbing, paintball, etc.
Grade 7	Southern MS	Shady Side Park	No		Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 7	Southern MS				Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 7		Kinder Farm Park	Cypress fields	Swimming	Outdoor games	Wrestling	
Grade 8	Annapolis MS	Kinder Farm Park	Broadneck Park	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	In the future, I would like to see more animals such as petting zoos, and animal education exhibits.
Grade 8	Annapolis MS	PAL Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Football field
Grade 8	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	Annapolis MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder farm	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	Arundel MS	GORC	Nope	Swimming	Outdoor games	Water sports	Outdoor pools with diving boards and slides
Grade 8	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Swimming	Outdoor games	Water sports	More county public swimming pools, especially outdoor pools!
Grade 8	Arundel MS	GORC		Ice skating	Water	Adventure Sports	I just want more things fun for me and my friends to enjoy that dont cost alot of money.
Grade 8	Arundel MS	GORC	No	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Zip line
Grade 8	Arundel MS	GORC			Community Space	Adventure Sports	More areas where people can dispose of their waste and trash.
Grade 8	Arundel MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	Would love ziplines and opportunities to volunteer
Grade 8	Arundel MS	Lake Waterford Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Dishing	I love the outdoors and my friends and I love to go fishing but there aren't too many safe places to go. We want to be able to do this with independence in our local communities. I think there should be many more places to do this. We never catch anything at Patuxent Ponds Park so a stocking or catch/release would be help too.
Grade 8	Arundel MS		no	Regional Park	Community Space	Fields	soccer fields
Grade 8	Arundel MS			Swimming	Water	Water sports	
Grade 8	Bates MS	PAL Park	Shiley Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Laser Tag
Grade 8	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	Swimming pool and playground off of hilltop	Ice skating	Water	Indoor Courts	
Grade 8	Bates MS	Quiet Waters Park	Jonas Green Park	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	We went to WV for vacation and went to Pipestem Park. They had a floating obstacle course! Could you put one in Harness Creek?!
Grade 8	Bates MS		No	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	More trash cans and recycle bins, so people don't litter as much.
Grade 8	Bates MS		Quiet waters park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Youth 0-17 memberships should be more affordable even if paying for a day of adventure .
Grade 8	Brooklyn Park MS	Downs Park	No	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Water sports	I would like to see a County Park that we don't have to drive 20 minutes to get to. There's nothing to do and no parks in my area. (Brooklyn Park)
Grade 8	Central MS	All Parks	The Park in Annapolis	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Water sports	Open parks up so we have fun
Grade 8	Central MS	Bell Branch Park	Kinder Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	A big lacrosse or field hockey tournament! Like Troy Park and Blandair Parks have
Grade 8	Central MS	Corridor Park	Loch Haven	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Fields with lights
Grade 8	Central MS	DAA	No				
Grade 8	Central MS	Davidsonville Park			Natural Areas	Indoor Courts	



## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 8	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	Bell Branch Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More quality fields.
Grade 8	Central MS	Davidsonville Park	Bell Branch Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More quality fields.
Grade 8	Central MS	Loch Haven Park	Riva fields		Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 8	Central MS	Loch Haven Park	Edgewater Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	At Edgewater Park I'd like to see either the baseball diamonds cleaned up or for them to be turned into something else. Also I'd like to see newer blocking pads at Edgewater Park because the ones there seem like they need replacement.
Grade 8	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	nope	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	mountain bike jumps plz
Grade 8	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park		Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	DAA	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	Central MS	Quiet Waters Park	No	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	More turf fields
Grade 8	Central MS	Riva Park	Loch haven	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Just space and no buildings
Grade 8	Central MS	Riva Park	Loch haven park	Ice skating	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	Motocross track and trails
Grade 8	Central MS	Riva Park	Davidsonville Park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I think it would be convenient to have snack bars and vending machines
Grade 8	Central MS	Troy Park	Bachman	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More fields
Grade 8	Central MS		idk	Ice skating	Water	Adventure Sports	a zip line
Grade 8	Central MS			Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Parks that look Howard County Park: Troy Park, Blandair Regional Park and more indoor practice facility
Grade 8	Chesapeake Bay MS	Beechwood for fishing	The rest are all for old people	Swimming	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	I go to other county's parks because they have more fun adventurous things for kids my age to do.
Grade 8	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Fort smallwood	Regional Park	Community Space		
Grade 8	Chesapeake Bay MS	Downs Park	Kinder Farms	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Fields	
Grade 8	Chesapeake Bay MS	Fort Smallwood Park	Downs Park	Ice skating	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 8	Chesapeake Bay MS	Kinder Farm Park	Fort Smallwood	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 8	Corkran MS	3rd Avenue, Glen Burnie	Sawmill	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	More dog parks. take care of parks 3rd Avenue always has trash and is not taken care of.
Grade 8	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Tickneck		Outdoor games	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Biking trials
Grade 8	George Fox MS	Downs Park	Ft. Smallwood Park	Regional Park	Water	All	Lower yearly park fees & 1 pass per family. Not have to buy a separate pass for each vehicle.
Grade 8	George Fox MS	Fort Smallwood Park	No	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	
Grade 8	George Fox MS	Thomas Point Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	I would like to see the George Washington David memorial park.
Grade 8	George Fox MS	Thomas Point Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	I would like to see the George Washington Davis memorial park.
Grade 8	Lindale MS	Downs Park	Fort Smallwood	Swimming	Water	Water sports	
Grade 8	Lindale MS	North Glen	Lindale ms	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Lindale MS	Randazzo Softball Park	None		Community Space	Environmental	More trees and natural areas instead of just pavement
Grade 8	Lindale MS		I don't have one.	Swimming	Community Space	Adventure Sports	I would like to see more nature areas.
Grade 8	Lindale MS					Fields	
Grade 8	Magothy River MS	Downs Park	Quite Waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Beach access for people not just dogs, food stands or trucks
Grade 8	Magothy River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	More hiking trails, camping and water areas
Grade 8	Magothy River MS	Lake Waterford Park	Quiet Waters	Swimming	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Magothy River MS	Quiet Waters Park	Spriggs farm park		Water	Fields	
Grade 8	Marley MS	Downs Park	Fort Smallwood	Regional Park	Water	Water sports	More areas to swim
Grade 8	Marley MS	Lake Waterford Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Adventure Sports	A Section of ramps to do bike and skateboard tricks on
Grade 8	Marley MS		No	Ice skating	Indoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Meade MS	Sandy Point State Park	Race Rd Park		Water	Water sports	Live music shows, kids' nature groups that do fishing, boating safety, any outdoor club stuff
Grade 8	Old Mill North MS	Generals Highway Corridor Park	Bacon Ridge Park (Bike Trail)	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Paintball & zip lining sounds super fun, I would love that. Also just well taken care of fields, and you guys are doing pretty good with that.
Grade 8	Old Mill North MS	Lake Waterford Park	Ft. Smallwood	Regional Park	Indoor games	Water sports	More water fun
Grade 8	Old Mill North MS	Old Mill Park		Swimming	Water	Adventure Sports	

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 8	Old Mill South MS	Sandy Point State Park	Downs Park	Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Old Mill South MS	Waterbury Park	Millersville Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More outdoor basketball courts
Grade 8	other	All Parks	N/A (All of them)	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	I think it would be nice if the parks could be a bit more secluded or have a few more trees and plants; some of the parks around here only have playgrounds and man-made things but I think it would be beneficial to have more secluded areas for hiking, camping, or just general peace.
Grade 8	other	All Parks		Swimming	Indoor games	Indoor Courts	County park spread around more, so people don't need to go far to get to them
Grade 8	other	Annursyle farm park	No	Ice skating	Water	Water sports	
Grade 8	other	Bell Branch Park	Bacon Ridge	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	Water
Grade 8	other	Bell Branch Park	Crofton Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	other	Bell Branch Park	Crofton Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	other	Jug Bay	Quiet waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	other	Kinder Farm Park	Fort smallwood	Regional Park	Natural Areas		Bike trails
Grade 8	other	Kinder farm park	Quiet waters park	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	Splash pads would be great! Also make sure ALL park playgrounds are rust FREE (poles, swing chains/seats, other metal surfaces for both little and big kid playgrounds) To mention one, Quiet Waters park has rust on swing chains and seats, where the rust would get on kids hands.
Grade 8	other	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters Park	Swimming	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 8	other	Mathewtown Harman Community Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Outdoor sports	more natural areas for fishing, and waterpark
Grade 8	other	Quiet Waters Park	Downs	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	Outdoor and environmental education areas
Grade 8	other		No	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	other		the second funnest one	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	yes
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Mago Vista	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	More boat launches
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Arnold Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I would like a zip line at Broadneck Park to go to.
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Indoor Courts	We need indoor basketball courts and adventure sports at our parks!
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Broadneck Park	Quiet Waters Park	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Turf Fields. The Broadneck Park fields turn to mud when it rains and I can't play soccer.
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Downs Park	Jug Bay	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Kinder Farm Park	Fort small wood	Regional Park	Water	Indoor Courts	More places to play tennis soccer volleyball or even things like splash pads at parks
Grade 8	Severn River MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder farm	Ice skating	Water	Water sports	jet ski rental, blow up water course
Grade 8	Severn River MS			Regional Park	Water	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	AOSC and NAAC	Kinder Farm Park	Swimming	Water	Water sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kiefer Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Water	Dog parks and pools	More natural water
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Community Space	Water sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Fort Smallwood	Regional Park	Water	Outdoor sports	Tennis courts
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	beverly triton	Regional Park	Community Space	Natural areas for hiking, etc	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Outdoor sports	Pickleball courts
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I would love for there to be more turf feuds as well.
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Outdoor sports	A skatepark at Kinder Farm Park. Also a bigger ice skating rink.
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	More bathrooms at kinder away from sports fields
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	No	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park		Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet Waters	Ice skating	Community Space	Adventure Sports	Need sports fields like Howard County has
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Quiet waters maybe	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	Rock walls and ziplines would be dope
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Lake waterfort	Regional Park	Community Space	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Downs park	Ice skating	Outdoor games	Fields	
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park		Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Along with fields for sports we need more natural green spaces for nature walks.

## Appendix C

### Middle School Recreation Parks Survey

Grade	What school do you attend?	What's your favorite County park to visit?	Do you have a second favorite County park?	Do you ever visit any of the County's special parks?	What do you like to do when you go to the park?	What do we need in our parks?	Tell us anything else about what YOU would like to see in County Parks in the future:
Grade 8	Severna Park MS	Kinder Farm Park	Lake Waterford	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Water sports	Less trash in areas
Grade 8	Severna Park MS		Quiet waters	Swimming	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Southern MS	All Parks		Swimming	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Southern MS	Davidsonville Park	Southern highschool	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	Turf feilds
Grade 8	Southern MS	Edgewater Park	no	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	more fields and indoor gyms in south county
Grade 8	Southern MS	Jug Bay	Dunkirk	Regional Park	Natural Areas	Water sports	More parks/ swimming in South County!
Grade 8	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinderfarm	Ice skating	Natural Areas	Adventure Sports	
Grade 8	Southern MS	Quiet Waters Park	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Outdoor games	Adventure Sports	I would like to see a park in South County. Thanks!
Grade 8		Kinder Farm Park	Cypress fields	Regional Park	Indoor games	Wrestling	More opportunities for wrestling
Not listed	Magothy River MS			Regional Park	Outdoor games	Fields	
Not listed		B&A Trail	Kinder Farm	Regional Park	Adventure Sports	Mountain biking	I would like to see a lot more mountain biking trails

**Appendix C:**  
**Public Engagement**  
*Additional Public Input*



# Mayo Civic Association, Inc.

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February 1, 2022

AACO Department of Recreation and Parks  
Attention: LPPRP Coordinator  
1 Harry S Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: Comments on the Draft 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

Attention: LPPRP Coordinator:

Following a careful review and consideration of the draft 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan at our recent meeting, the Board of Directors of the Mayo Civic Association (MCA) has voted to submit the following comments:

The Mayo Civic Association is on record opposing the designation of the Beverly Triton Nature Park (BTNP) as a Public Beach and public swimming as a programmed use and reaffirms that position with this letter. Page 55 of the draft LPPRP identifies BTNP as a Public Beach where swimming and wading are designated and intended activities at Beverly Triton Nature Park. The MCA understands that swimming is not permitted at BTNP and that the County changed the name of this park to specifically make the statement that this park is not a Public Beach. This passage on Page 55 should be corrected.

The MCA commends the County's efforts to establish a "Nature Park" framework for BTNP. As you know, the MCA has been a leader in the protection and preservation of the BTNP since the late 1970's. Funding to purchase BTNP was provided by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Congress created the LWCF in 1965, to conserve important lands and waters by provide funding to protect parks, areas around rivers and lakes, national forests, and national wildlife refuges from development. This unique tract of land on the Chesapeake Bay is a National treasure which has been entrusted to Anne Arundel County to preserve and protect. A public beach is not a use that will preserve and protect BTNP. The MCA supports devoting BTNP, as much as possible to passive, environmentally sensitive uses rather than recreation using nationally recognized principles for sustainable park planning and design. Planning, designing, constructing, and operating sustainable parks often follows nationally recognized guidelines such as: US National Park Service's Guidelines on Sustainable Principles of Sustainable Design - <http://www.nps.gov/dsc/workflows/dssustain.htm> and Oregon State Parks, Developing Sustainable Park Systems in Oregon, A Component of the 2013-2017 Oregon Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan - [http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018\\_SCORP/Developing\\_Sustainable\\_Park\\_Systems.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/PLANS/docs/scorp/2013-2018_SCORP/Developing_Sustainable_Park_Systems.pdf). The MCA encourages the Department of Recreation and Parks to develop clear standards on the design, development and operation of sustainable parks.

The LPPRP identifies that there is a single private skate park in the southern portion of Anne Arundel County. There is an unmet demand for skate-related recreation opportunities in AACO. The LPPRP identifies on Page 79 that public-private partnerships may be a suitable way to develop these types

of facilities. The MCA encourages the County to do a better job funding and providing skate-related recreation opportunities to all residents. The MCA requests assistance with the Mayo Skatepark the only skatepark in southern Anne Arundel County. As the MCA has repeatedly requested help with the Mayo Skatepark, the County has continued to ignore demand for skate-related recreation opportunities in AACO.

The MCA is hopeful that our comments will be carefully considered.

Sincerely,



Edna D. Schmitt  
President

CC: Steuart Pittman, County Executive, Anne Arundel County  
Jessica Haire, Council Member, Anne Arundel County Council-District 7  
Jessica Leys, Director, AACO Department of Recreation and Parks  
Matthew Johnston, AACO Environmental Policy Director

## Neighbors of the Mayo Peninsula

August 31, 2021

Ms. Jessica Leys, Director  
Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks

Dear Jessica:

Please find below our recommendations for the **2022 Land Preservation, Recreation and Parks Plan draft**. We are pleased to participate in the plan refresh and commend the Department of Recreation and Parks on its broad outreach to citizens for input. Let's build on the good working relationship we have – Mayo residents and the County – and keep working together to come up with great solutions, just as many came together to make the Park pass system a reality. We also look forward to collaborating with groups like the South River Youth Association, the Baltimore Area Boarding Association and the Bicycle Advocates as we pool ideas and consider the future of Mayo parks.

Using the **2018 Envision Mayo Report on Community Goals for the Mayo Peninsula** and the **2017 LPPRP** as starting points, several residents have recently collaborated to make the specific recommendations below on the 2022 LPPRP. Communities represented included Beverly Beach, Cloverlea, Saunders Point, West Shoreham, Loch Haven, Loch Haven Manor, Selby-on-the-Bay, and Honeysuckle Dr. along with the citizen-driven Neighbors of the Mayo Peninsula.

As you develop the LPPRP draft, including identifying specific land acquisition, park development and park rehabilitation projects throughout the County, please accept our input on both county-wide efforts and on the Mayo parks. In our case, park acreage is already in hand – it is now up to citizens and government to collaborate on usage of these parks in a way that leads to recreational opportunities, community health and safety, and preservation of important natural ecosystems on the peninsula.

### Recommendations for the 2022 LPPRP

1. Focus any future development of Mayo Peninsula parks on **passive recreational activities** in line with the Peninsula Development Policy in Plan2040.

Mayo offers textbook examples of peninsula-specific needs around infrastructure, emergency services, forestation, stream and water quality, and transportation (roads/bikes/pedestrians). The peninsula has a high-water table and is susceptible to sea level rise; Central Avenue and neighborhood roads have flooded during major storms. For this reason, it is recommended that any future development of Mayo parks be geared to *passive recreation*, defined in the 2017 LPPRP as hiking/jogging, birdwatching, living shorelines, fishing, water access (as opposed to *active recreation*, defined as basketball courts and ballfields). These activities do not require new impervious surfaces or infrastructure that would exacerbate stormwater runoff or increase traffic congestion. Parking for passive recreation activities should be kept to a minimum, based on actual usage, and phased in, based on demonstrated need after relevant natural resource management plans are created and enacted.

2. **Preserve the natural ecosystems** of park acreage wherever possible.

As existing parks are developed, consider the role that the park's natural ecosystem plays in its location (water filtration, carbon sequestration, soil formation, stormwater management, extreme weather mitigation), serving the entire peninsula. Retain and enhance these environmental features

in ways that help preserve the land and educate park visitors about their vital role in our environment.

3. Spend **land acquisition and construction dollars in areas of the County where there is high inequity** in terms of park facilities and where there is higher population densities. The 2017 LPPRP cites the North and West planning areas as having the highest concentration of need for more recreational facilities.

The *State of Maryland 2017 Goals for Recreation, Parks, and Open Space* states that “to the greatest degree feasible, ensure that recreational land and facilities for local populations are conveniently located relative to population centers, are accessible without reliance on the automobile, and help to protect natural open spaces and resources.” (2017 LPPRP, p. III-4).

4. Use **energy efficient and sustainable best practices** when constructing buildings on parkland, to include materials, HVAC, lighting, and waste management. Strive to use pervious surfaces before laying impervious surfaces.
5. Focus efforts for increased **public water access** where it is needed in the County in line with the 2017 LPPRP data. The 2017 LPPRP shows planning area deficits and cites that the northern and eastern planning areas have a need for water access. The report indicates that the Southern Planning Area has few current major deficits, and, with low projected population increase, few deficits are projected through 2035 (p. III-29). 35% of Eastern area respondents see a need for additional water access, while only 23 percent of Southern respondents expressed this need (p. III-22). In line with these area specific needs and goal #4 of the state of Maryland 2017 (cited above), focus waterfront recreational activities where it is most needed in the Northern and Eastern Planning areas.
6. Fill the need for **South County athletic fields** (p. III-41) by looking first to the availability of existing fields and working with all parties to maximize their use. Examples include Edgewater Park fields, Loch Haven Park, SRHS/Central Middle School, and Riva Park. Regular maintenance and lighting where possible will expand usage of existing fields.

If existing fields in the Southern planning area cannot meet the demand, we recommend that new fields be in non-peninsula areas where *more robust infrastructure and multi-point access already exists*. As an example, Central Avenue Park is cited in the 2017 plan for construction of athletic fields, parking, and other community recreation facilities (p. III-42) and is located off the peninsula but still nearby.

7. Develop **hiking and biking trails in South County**. The 2017 LPPRP list of Facility Development Projects (p. 111-42-43) includes a feasibility study for providing a trail from Mayo to Edgewater. We would like to see this study completed and resources allotted to develop trails for hiking and biking, not only in the Mayo-Edgewater area but in the larger Southern planning area.
8. As new park acreage is acquired, and as existing parks are developed or rehabbed, the County should acknowledge a commitment both to the **surrounding community (capacity of infrastructure, potential impact on neighborhoods, ease of access, etc.) and to lifecycle funding** (adequate staffing and maintenance over the long-term so that parks may be utilized as planned). This commitment should be stated in the 2022 LPPRP and will go a long way toward assuring the success of parks within county communities.

Attachment A is included as context with regard to the Mayo Peninsula parks.



As we have worked collectively on input to the LPPRP, we have seen an opportunity to expand the conversation around the future of each park on the peninsula. We plan to engage in a process that invites Mayo residents and associations to come together and share ideas, concerns, and possibilities for the future of our parks and hope that the Department of Recreation & Parks will join in the conversations. We believe the best results come from making choices together because that's what partnership truly is. We look forward to working in partnership with you as we move forward with our Envision Mayo Parks initiative.

Sincerely,

Neighbors of the Mayo Peninsula

Emily Parkhurst, President (410-707-1287)

Marie Del Bianco, Secretary (443-336-6064)

cc: County Executive Pittman, James Kitchin, Matt Johnston, Chris Trumbauer; Sen Sarah Elfreth; Councilperson Jessica Haire; Matt Hobbs

## Attachment A – Parks on the Mayo Peninsula

### THE CONTEXT

**Growth** - The Mayo peninsula is under significant development pressure. Population and housing growth since 1990 has been dramatic, increasing by a factor of three between 1990-2010. The 2020 census will undoubtedly show an ongoing upward trend.

Growth was boosted when Anne Arundel County lifted the peninsula building moratorium in 2017 after improvements were completed to the Mayo septic system. At that time, more than 600 lots for new homes were identified by OPZ, the vast majority being single infill lots. Development of these lots does not trigger the County Adequate Public Facility Ordinances, the only tool currently available to monitor and control growth, as that tool kicks in at the subdivision level. The result is and will continue to be a significant imbalance between development and community/environmental health/safety.

**Impact of Growth** - Population and housing growth brings increased traffic, additional impervious surface, loss of trees, disruption of habitat, and disturbance of wetlands. In turn, these factors cause greater stormwater runoff into waterways and strain the existing infrastructure. Construction has been permitted close to the water as more than half of the peninsula shoreline parcels are classified as “buffer modification” areas, permitting intrusion into the prescribed 100’ Critical Area buffer. The peninsula does not have any large agricultural acreage or conservation easements to help protect its natural environment, and sea level rise and erosion are gnawing at its edges. Please refer to the **2019 Peninsula Principles** for more information concerning the environmental sensitivity of peninsulas.

**Park Land Mass** - The Mayo peninsula land mass is approx. 3,584 acres. The current inventory of County-owned parks and future park acreage includes approx. 707 acres.

Cumulatively, these properties comprise more than 20% of peninsula land mass. The existing park forested tracts, shorefronts, and wetlands play an important role in filtering runoff and stabilizing the ecosystem. Adding impervious surfaces and removing trees will lessen their effectiveness.

Beverly Triton Nature Park – 331 acres

Carr’s Wharf Pier - 2

Mayo Beach Park – 23 acres

South River Farm Park – 181 acres

Loch Haven Park – 31 acres

Water Reclamation Facility (proposed park) – 115 acres

Glebe Heights Park (proposed park) - 26 acres

**Planning to date** - Anne Arundel County has developed a series of Master Plans for various Mayo parks, producing a final report in January 2018, just a few months after the lifting of the development moratorium. Plans are schematic in nature with only Beverly Triton Nature Park slated to be taken to the next steps in the implementation process. The County is to be commended for holding a series of open meetings to present the BTNP plans, at the 30% and the 60% points, and being open to suggestions by Mayo residents for modifications and plan improvements.

BTNP construction is slated to begin in Fall 2021. We are gratified to hear from the County that the remaining Mayo Parks Master Plans are out-of-date, and we welcome the opportunity to enter open, public dialogue about an update. These conversations should be meaningful exchanges of ideas and priorities within both environmental and recreational contexts.

## THE CHALLENGE

**County needs** – Anne Arundel County seeks more recreation opportunities for all citizens. And, it happens to have purchased significant acreage on the Mayo peninsula in the 1970s and 1980s and will soon have the 115-acre decommissioned Water Reclamation Facility in its inventory. It is logical that the County would look to these locations as possible recreation development sites.

**Mayo Peninsula needs** – Mayo's 20-year growth pattern – a tripling in housing and population – means that the peninsula is truly filling up, both in larger communities like Selby Bay (800 homes) and Loch Haven (430 homes) and smaller neighborhoods like River Club Estates (70 homes) and Shoreham Beach (140 homes).

Any changes to existing parks must factor in the future impact on the community and the environment. Traffic congestion is the most obvious form of impact, followed by stormwater problems like flooded roads and basements, and increased road runoff into the waterways.

This is not a matter of Mayo residents not wanting visitors to peninsula parks. *Rather, it is a matter of balancing park usage with neighborhood/road capacity and environmental resiliency.*

**Dialogue** - Mayo residents have been raising their voices, in a civil manner, for several years about balancing the promotion and expansion of Mayo parks with maintaining a soft footprint on the shoreline environment and minimizing the impact of additional traffic. We continue to do so, despite harsh criticism by loud voices on various social media channels about "Mayo obstructionists and elitists." This tone is harmful to public dialogue, and we reject it. Instead, we look forward to sharing our ideas and concerns with the County in a mutually productive way.

## THE ENVIRONMENT

*Mayo must strive to build up its environmental resiliency, not further degrade it. And help is needed.*

**Critical Area designations** - BTNP, MBP, and SRFP are in the Resource Conservation Area of the state-defined Critical Area of the Chesapeake Bay shorelines, meaning each should receive the highest attention for natural resource protection. Further, the Water Reclamation Facility and adjacent County-owned acreage is largely forested and links the Resource Conservation Area of SRFP to that located just across Central Avenue and leading to Sellman Creek on the Rhode River. The WRF should receive similar protection to the greatest extent possible. Plan2040 Built Environment Goal BE4.1 acknowledges the need to consider expansion of Critical Area designations on peninsulas.

**Natural Resource Plans** - We request that the County develop natural resource management plans, including flora and fauna inventories, forest conservation, stabilization of riparian buffers, habitat protection, and removal of invasives, to assure long-term health and stability of the ecosystem of each park. Mayo

residents have been making this request for several years and County Executive Pittman echoed the need in 2019.

The excerpt below, from nearby Montgomery County; *Caring for our Parks*, illustrates how a similar program assesses and stewards park natural resources for both long-term preservation and long-term benefit to citizens. We understand that our County does not have the same resources as other counties, but we can chip away at it. The new 2-acre pollinator meadow at Quiet Waters is a great example – less mowing and more habitat support.

### **Excerpt: MONTGOMERY CO. Park Planning & Stewardship Division: Caring for our Parks**

<https://www.montgomeryparks.org/caring-for-our-parks/natural-spaces/>

Despite urbanization, Montgomery County has a wealth of natural areas that provide refuge for wild species and respite for park patrons. Parks staff preserve these spaces so that common and rare species of animals and plants may thrive, and all of us can enjoy the natural beauty of our region for generations to come. The natural resources of Montgomery County include unique geology and soils, streams, wetlands, woodlands, and meadows. These resources support a variety of ecological communities and form the backbone of our park system.

**Vegetation and Wildlife Habitat** - Terrestrial resources include the flora (plants) and fauna (wildlife) that live among us in the County's Park system. A healthy and vibrant Park system is dependent upon a healthy and diverse plant community. Vegetation Management Staff preserves unique and valuable habitats as well as rare and endangered plant species while battling the negative effects of non-native invasive plants (NNIs). Strategies to support this preservation include identification and acquisition of important natural resources; Best Natural Areas and Biodiversity Areas management; afforestation/reforestation and habitat restoration; non-native plant management; the Weed Warrior and Woods Warrior volunteer programs; and white-tailed deer, nuisance wildlife management, and artificial habitat programs.

**Meadow Management** - Parks staff manage and restore meadows to protect these natural habitats and ensure native plants, insects, birds, and mammals can flourish. If these areas are not managed, they would revert to forest or be overrun by non-native invasive plants, and eventually, native plants and animals would be eradicated from the area.

**Wildlife Management** - Wildlife is managed for public safety, regulatory compliance, biodiversity, and sustainability, and all in accordance with human land uses and priorities.

**Water Resources** - Aquatic resources in the County include fish, amphibians, reptiles, benthic macroinvertebrates (small insects and other creek dwellers), and the water bodies where they reside. Parks staff manage the County's aquatic resources by:

- Conducting stream monitoring
- Tracking water quality
- Employing stormwater management and stream restoration techniques
- Reviewing concept plans to minimize impacts to Parkland

**Nature Centers** - The future success of our stewardship efforts depends on an engaged community that understands the impact of human actions on the environment and that is committed to supporting conservation activities in their own lives and throughout our community.

**Date:** Feb 13, 2022  
**Subject:** Review Comments and Testimony  
**Reference:** Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan (Draft Dec. 2021)  
**Submittal Date to County:** NLT Feb 15<sup>th</sup>

First, I thank the DPR for developing and sharing this draft of the county's long view of land preservation, parks, and recreation for its residents. I have taken the time to read and reread the first 89 pages and Appendix A in depth. It is clear the county has a complicated task of sorting and evaluating the various residential, community and regional needs and wants. I live (at least for the moment) in Councilmanic District 4 but also commute routinely in adjoining Districts 6 and 7, less in the others). My comments below are both general for the county-wide view and specific for my community.

General plan comments:

1. Pg 37 Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan 2013 –Implementation: Any and all efforts to make non-motorized ways of transportation more accessible and possible in this county have my support. Any biking and walking paths that parallel and stay off two-lane roads with no breakdown lanes have my support. I have used local 2 lane roads to run – it is dicey.
2. Pg 24 Comprehensive Plan Framework- Planning Strategy: I am in general agreement with the plan, particularly statements made as follows:
  - a. Increase the amount of protected land in the County NE 3.1
  - b. Continue expansion of protected corridors of woodlands and open spaces per Greenways Master Plan NE3.2
  - c. Seek preservation of lands in PPA through protective easements for 80% goal
  - d. Use vacant or underutilized county owned surplus property to conservation and community benefit. BE 1.5
  - e. Maintain limited development using Rural and Ag land use designation as primary planning mechanism to preserve character of the county rural and ag policy area. Limit development to rural density beyond county public sewer service area BE2.1.
  - f. Promote stewardship of historic resources and county owned archaeological collections; encourage adaptive re-use of historic property and preservation of historic and cultural landscapes BE14.3
  - g. Provide a transportation network that is environmentally sensitive and resilient.
3. Pg 2, 15, 32 Deforestation: It is troubling to see the tree coverage in our “tremendous” Maryland continue to fall – be felled – without real remedy. In less than 25 years tree coverage has been halved (62% forestation in 1997 vs 34-35% in 2020. It is equally troubling to see the trees cut by developers and, as compensation, replaced by stick plantings that are crowded in smaller lots with limited chance of a good survival yield. The tremendous program is nice, but someone should be working to better green the canopy... This is essential to good stewardship of the environment (LPPRP State Planning Vision #11).
4. Pg 47 Trails It is good to see shared use trails being developed and can only hope that I will still be fit enough to get a chance to use them myself when they are built. In particular, I look forward to



MD 175, South Shore, and the WB&A extensions. The MD 175 intersection with Rt. 3 will be a challenge and the decision making on design should involve those impacted locally.

NOTE: A walk/bike bridge is still needed over Rt 3, or you can put a tunnel if that works better, but the pedestrian walk through on Rt 3 should be considered a temporary strategy only.

5. Pg 35, 58 Greenways, Green Infrastructure, and Open Space:

As stated in Chapter III (pg 35), the Greenways Master Plan of 2002 which established the Greenways Network has now, to be more inclusive (as suggested by the new terminology) been renamed the Green Infrastructure Plan. This is wonderful to hear. It now includes rain gardens, pocket parks, large natural areas, etc., and not just linear runs such as river bed edges and converted rails to trails biking paths.

The Ask: Please consider expanding this new definition to include the corridor that is Millersville Road beginning at Generals Highway and continuing across Rt 3 where it turns into Rt 175. It is unfortunate that WaWa wedged in there, but the route leading from Generals Highway and Millersville Road across Rt 3 and west toward the Dairy Farm, the Corn Maze, the old feed store and Gambrell's P.O., well, it could be quite an asset to the county, to bikers and commuters. It passes several historic green sites along the way. It is a great opportunity to make something aesthetically appealing to all and, ignoring for the moment, the Rt3 snake of traffic and WaWa elephant in the vision, could restore sense of rural legacy even here. It could be quite beautiful.

Also, an expansion of open space inventory (pg 58 #3 from community engagement on Plan 2040) is needed. To quote, "The pace of development in the county has elevated awareness that the development pattern of recent decades is undesirable and unsustainable. The public deliberation that informs Plan 2040 confirmed a shift to planning for green space, agriculture..., SWM, and outdoor recreation as infrastructure, as essential as streets, pipes and power." Our land is finite and better used if not paved over and over built upon.

6. Future Planning of Ballfields: In general, athletic fields should be built in more densely populated areas of the county and not in low density and rural communities. For one, there will be less traffic generated to transport the users to the facility if kept where used. School fields should be prioritized for this kind of addition. Secondly, athletic fields for organized sports are not of themselves a community builder.
7. Equity Issues: Yes to the efforts to make more congested areas more amenable. Any pocket parks or improvements to the street views to make outdoors a place to want to be and enjoy is a good thing.

#### Specific Comments:

The following comments refer to District 4 (for now) and the future study, design, and development of Millersville Park and the Millersville Road corridor.

1. Millersville Corridor – My comment is above in #5. The Ask.
2. Millersville Park: **The proposed development shown on Table III-15 shows a sports complex with 4 – 6 multipurpose fields. This proposal is not the right match for the site, for the community, or the environment. Please do not do this.** There are more ideas on how to develop a successful and wanted community park. Reasons for not doing so include:
  - a. Traffic Impact on our roads: First, traffic studies on the impact of this part have, to date, been incomplete at best. A legitimate impartial study needs to precede any design work and it should include such things as weekend traffic from Jehovah Witness Assembly Hall on Sunrise Beach Road and Our Lady of the Fields. It should be sensitive to state or county Covids closures restrictions which affect car traffic. It should be done on school days when the busses and the parents pick up and drop off. It should take into account the traffic generated by each ballfield and the traffic capacity of the parking at this proposed park. I have run these local streets during all hours and have learned, through experience, the hours and the days to avoid, and this is just for current traffic, not traffic enhanced by a destination journey to an organized event at a ball field.
  - b. Potential changes to the historic nature of our community: This park – a 33-acre grassy patch seen from I 97 and with only one way in, an old farm entry road which allowed work vehicles in...unpaved, 2 ruts where tires have compacted the soil beneath ... would, if converted to ball fields and high traffic counts back and forth require, no doubt, reengineering of Millersville Road where it doglegs around to Waterbury. It would be a public safety thing for a lot of people flocking to a destination event on roads that are ill prepared to have that number of cars. It would be totally not in keeping with Millersville as an historic road, which it is. It would destroy the rural character of this place that we call home. Please do not create such a park which would create the need to widen or reengineer our road.
  - c. Environmental Issues: The County acknowledges that the largest watersheds entirely within the County are Severn River and South River. These are the jewels that make life abundant here and they need to be protected. At the headwaters of the Severn is Jabez Branch, reported to be “home to the only known naturally reproducing brook trout population in the Maryland coastal plain.” (Chapter II Watersheds and Streams). The runoff from this proposed park and paved parking goes to the Jabez Branch and could damage the stream. A stormwater management study needs to be done prior to any investment in a design. The idea of this size of a park and usage is odd, considering the plans for a huge stream restoration project by DNR and SHA.
  - d. Preferred amenities other than ballfields: District 4 comments from the 2040 Plan and other takeaways from public meetings offer a number of other ways to create a community park that the community will use and enjoy. Some of these options in the LPPRP draft include:
    - i. Keep as a natural area and for land conservation. It also is close to historic sites, all high countywide needs takeaways from LPPRP 2017 (LPPRP 2022 pg60)

- ii. “Though it was the #4 priority, **common spaces where members of a community can interact**, such as playgrounds, picnic shelters, tot lots, gardens, dog parks, historic or natural sites, were mentioned often in the “other” comment.” Pg 55
- iii. **Pavilions. They are relatively low-cost facilities** and are provided at new and rehab parks as opportunities arise (pg 55).
- iv. Dog parks. **Dog parks** are proposed at existing and new parks based on demand (esp D1).
- e. Community retention and enhancement: Ballfields do not define a community. People who live in the same local area and form a social unit, however loosely, do. Pg 32 (Item #4) of the LPPRP State Planning Visions envisions a Community design that is a “compact, mixed-use, walkable design consistent with existing community character..... and encouraged to use... preservation and enhancement of natural systems, open spaces, recreational areas, and historical, cultural, and archaeological resources.” Open fields have been expressed as one of our county’s 3 highest needs (pg 55) which could be used for unprogrammed play. Millersville south has an elementary school. It has Baldwin Hall for meetings and craft fairs and such on Millersville Road and Old Generals Highway. We have three churches as gathering places. What we lack in the larger sense of extended community is a common place for informal gatherings – a field, a pavilion, a trail, a pick-up ball area. District 4 also rated picnic areas as high on the list of wants. An informal extension of the South Shore Trail around the perimeter of the field would be useful and enjoyed by bikers and walkers.

Thank you for your time and for all the work you do to make Anne Arundel a better place to live in and love.

Patricia Lilek  
 70 Linda Lane  
 Millersville, MD 21108

**From: Debbie Weller, President Old Millersville Neighborhood Association**

**Date: February 13, 2022**

**Subject: Comments on the 2022 Draft Land Preservation, Recreation and Parks Plan**

**To: [lprrp2022@aacounty.org](mailto:lprrp2022@aacounty.org)**

Below are comments from the Old Millersville Neighborhood Association on the draft 2022 Land Preservation, Recreation and Parks Plan draft.

### **General Comments**

- Provide additional details on the maps (major roads, town names, etc.) so that viewers can orient more effectively. Many maps lack such information, so they are hard to use.
- We ask that funds be spent on projects that are needed and do *not* later require additional funds to mitigate damage from the project. For example, don't build recreational facilities in rural areas far from users because this results in environmental impacts, more vehicle miles traveled, and traffic congestion. The land may be cheaper so you can buy larger parcels, but the impacts on roads, the environment, pollution, and rural communities must be considered. These negative impacts can outweigh the benefits of the project. If existing fields do not meet the demand, new fields should be built in areas where more robust infrastructure and multi-point access already exists
- Athletic fields should be near the densely populated areas where the need for fields exists, such as in the relatively populous parts of Districts 1 and 4. Spending land acquisition and construction dollars in populous areas that lack an equitable share of park facilities is both fair and cost efficient.
- Since the County has acquired the Crownsville Hospital, which could accommodate lighted fields, current plans to build athletic fields elsewhere should be reconsidered in light of this new opportunity. Sites that lack infrastructure (water, sewer, and roads) and have few nearby users should be refocused to meet other recreational needs.
- In North County, there are few large, undeveloped areas available for large parks for passive or active recreation. North County's remaining green space is continuing to disappear, counter to the recommendations of the 2040 Plan and Small Area Plans. The use of each remaining parcel needs to be carefully considered relative to its capacity, environmental and ecological value, local and county needs, road capacity, infrastructure, population density, and community character. If a proposed project will consume green space and natural area, then calculations of net project benefits must account for the loss of the valuable services that natural spaces provide to local communities and to the whole County. Green space and natural areas are essential for making Anne Arundel a place where people want to live, work, and visit.
- **DRP should enhance its engagement with communities affected by DRP facilities:** Public engagement is essential as new park acreage is acquired and as existing parks are developed or rehabilitated. DRP invests a lot of effort in public outreach but needs a more balanced effort to ensure that the needs and concerns all stakeholder groups. DRP needs



to engage all stakeholder. – user stakeholders, nearby residential stakeholders, school stakeholders, and surrounding communities. To ensure buy in it is recommended at minimum have a scoping meeting at the 5%. The scope meeting would be with key community stakeholders (i.e., elected officials, community board members, neighborhood user-groups, members of the public), to determine the goal/objective, priorities and park elements for a project site. This suggestion is based on New York City’s Park process (<https://www.nycgovparks.org/planning-and-building/capital-projects>).

- DRP does a good job polling park user group to identify park and recreation needs.
- This process works especially well for sports organizations, who can manipulate the process by marshaling large turnouts to public meetings and by gimmicks like wearing their uniforms to meetings.
- DRP’s engagement with communities affected by the negative impacts of parks is very poor.
- DRP should enhance its process for addressing the needs and concerns of affected communities.
- This could be accomplished by routinely implementing a formal stakeholder engagement process like that recommended by the Society of Outdoor Professionals (<https://www.recpro.org/planning-principles>).
- The draft LPPRP should include a commitment to address these engagement deficiencies.
- **Develop clearer more effective guidelines for siting athletic fields**
  - Don’t place athletic fields on natural and undeveloped lands in low density and rural communities away from the user groups.
  - Instead, build them closer to the more densely populated portions of the County where most users live.
  - Enhance County open space regulations to require developers to set land aside for fields and recreational opportunities and use County funds to supplement the acreages where appropriate.
  - Collaborate with the Army to identify land and funding to address the need for active recreation near Fort Meade due the rapid growth driven by BRAC.
  - If we do not address recreational needs in new and developed residential areas, the County will continue to use limited green space or build multipurpose fields in rural and rural residential areas to address a problem created elsewhere.
- **The county can meet the need for athletic fields elsewhere:** There are opportunities to meet the need for athletic fields in other locations that are closer to the user groups, already have the necessary infrastructure, and can be developed with less impact on community character.
  - The County plans to acquire 50 acres for a new athletic complex in the western County, 30 acres for a community park in Glen Burnie, 30 acres adjacent to Jessup Park, 20 acres for the Linthicum BWI Athletic Field, and 10 acres in Deale-and MD City (LPRPP,

page 71). The Jessup Park athletic complex is envisioned as having multi-use athletic facilities suitable for supporting recreational league play and tournaments.

- These plans would place athletic fields close to the dense populations of users, minimizing travel needs for users and traffic impacts on everyone else.
- The County has acquired the Crownsville Hospital, which could accommodate several lighted multipurpose fields to address County needs.
- Given the above plans, the County should reconsider plans to place athletic fields in areas that are far from users and lack infrastructure (water, sewer, roads).
- Activities at new and existing parks should be refocused to address the recreational needs of the population over 65 years old, which is the fastest growing demographic. “The major population increase will be in persons aged 65 and over. This group is projected to increase by more than 45,000 from 2019- 2040, and will comprise 20 percent of the population in 2040, compared to 14 percent in 2019. (LPRPP, Page 2)”

### **Millersville Park**

We ask that you remove the text that states 4-6 athletic fields with irrigation, concession stand, comfort station, and parking will be placed in Millersville Park. This plan will have significant negative impacts on traffic, the environment, stormwater, noise, light pollution, Millersville Elementary School, and our community’s character.

The LPRPP should instead state that the County will engage stakeholders from surrounding communities to determine an appropriate mix of amenities for the site. The choice of uses must consider site capacity, road capacity, the location in a residential neighborhood, environmental impacts, and how the project will support county’s own restoration and development policies.

- **Traffic impacts:** The 4-6 field athletic complex will draw more traffic to Generals Highway, Millersville Road, and Route 3 with its failing intersections. The entrance is only 350 feet from Millersville Elementary, possibly impacting school safety. More traffic and congestion will drive more people to cut through neighborhoods on local roads (Cecil, St. Stephens Church Road, Severn Chapel Road, and Waterbury Road), to avoid back-ups on Rt. 3 or at the Millersville Rt. / Route 3 intersection. This will make travel on local roads more challenging and less safe, including at the two places where the South Shore Trail crosses local roads – Waterbury Road and Cecil Avenue.
- No decision on the use of Millersville Park should be made until the road capacity is determined. This is putting the cart before the horse.
- The construction of 4 to 6 ballfields will require at least 320 to 480 parking spaces. This alone is a clear indicator that the site will generate heavy traffic.
- DRP has previously rejected ballfields for the site. In a posted 2017 analysis, DRP concluded that five ballfields would require 400+ parking spaces and interfere with traffic on Millersville Road, especially during school dismissal and rush hour. There could easily be around 200 vehicles arriving for 5PM practices/games. Later time slots

would have 200 arriving and 200 exiting vehicles at the same time (see FAQ-Millersville-Park-040717.pdf, <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/parks/millersville-park-tennis/FAQ-Millersville-Park-040717.pdf>).

- That above analysis did not mention weekend traffic issues when hundreds of vehicles would be added repeatedly throughout the day. This would worsen existing congestion from large church services at the Jehovah Witness Assembly Hall and Our Lady of the Fields. Millersville Road can already back up more than a mile from Route 3 when the Jehovah Witness services end.
- Park development must *not* create a need to widen or reengineer Millersville Rd. The mix of park uses should *not* create new traffic problems on Millersville Rd or draw more traffic through residential neighborhoods. Rather than creating new traffic problems and then mitigating them, we should simply avoid creating new problems. Millersville Road is a historic country road with its own unique character. Our community would be very engaged and would likely oppose any plans that would destroy the road's charm and scenic value.
- **Environmental impacts**
  - The Millersville Park site drains to Jabez Branch, the Severn River, and Indian Creek. The Jabez Branch is a unique natural resource. It is the only stream in the Maryland Coastal Plain that supports a native, self-sustaining brook trout population. Plan 2040 establishes a specific goal to protect this stream because of its ecological value.
  - The 320-480 car parking lot, access roads, comfort station and concession stand will be new impervious surface that generates polluted stormwater runoff.
  - According to MD-DNR, sports fields are heavily compacted and are also sources of stormwater runoff and pollutants. (<https://dnr.maryland.gov/streams/Pages/streamhealth/How-Impervious-Surface-Impacts-Stream-Health.aspx>).
  - The combined runoff from the impervious surface and the fields themselves will negatively impact water quality and aquatic life in Jabez Branch and the Severn River and could hinder ongoing protection and restoration efforts.
  - When new parks are developed, the direct impact of the development and the loss of natural ecosystem services provided by the site must be considered. Retaining and enhancing the environmental features of the Millersville Park site and educating park visitors about their vital role in the environment should be goals in the Millersville Park plan. This would be consistent with the State Planning Visions on page 32 of LPRPP.
- **County Environmental Policy:** The continued conversion of the remaining greenspace and natural areas to more highly developed and impervious uses within the Jabez Branch watershed will hinder or negate the existing and planned restoration efforts. This will make it harder to meet the County's goal to protect Jabez Branch through a combination of acquisition, easement, and regulatory protection. Turning Millersville Park into collection of ballfields runs counter to this goal. It doesn't make sense for the County to turn much of Millersville Park to impervious surfaces while buying other land or easements or imposing regulations on other property owners within the watershed.

- The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and State Highway Administration is undertaking a massive stream restoration project on Jabez 3 Branch. The goals are to restore impaired hydrological, hydraulic, geomorphic, and physiochemical functions of the stream and associated wetland ecosystems.
- This Jabez restoration is consistent with County goals to protect unique environmental features and habitats. Plan 2040 specifically recognized Jabez Branch’s unique ecological value and states the County’s intent to Adopt an overlay zone with special provisions to protect its watershed (see Plan 2040 Volume 1: Goal NE 1 POLICY NE1.4). One of the performances measures for Policy NE1.4 (page 75 Plan 2040 Volume 1) is the number of acres of protected land in these areas. Converting Millersville Park to athletic fields plan would subtract from the number of acres protected.
- **The athletic fields plan contradicts previous County statements**
  - DRP’s own 2017 analysis rejected 3+ ballfields for the site because of “the size of the park, the close proximity of neighbors, and existing traffic patterns. That analysis cited unacceptable traffic impacts (see above)
  - The County Executive expressed concerns about: “too much impervious surface on virgin land, too much traffic already at Route 3 and 175, and not enough capacity on Millersville Rd” in his May 27, 2021, letter to Millersville residents.
  - Converting this precious remnant of green space to an intensive use, like an all-ballfields park, contradicts county preservation objectives in Plan 2040.
- **There are other recreational needs better suited for Millersville Park**
  - Tennis megaplex or wall-to-wall ballfields are *not* the only two choices.
  - The draft 2022 LPRPP reports that county-wide, the three highest outdoor recreational needs are pickleball, tennis, and open fields; and the highest natural area needs are walking and biking trails, natural areas, and nature centers (see draft LPPRP, page 55). Other requested amenities include dog parks, playgrounds, park programming for all ages, and gardens.
- **Millersville Park might be the right place to address these needs.**
  - Active recreation resources that are available for “pick up” use instead of organized groups or leagues are especially important. The pandemic has revealed a very high demand for unprogrammed recreation spaces.
  - Millersville Park would be perfect for a mix of amenities that would serve all ages and would be a “place,” not just a collection of ball fields. The selection of amenities needs to be based the impact on water quality, traffic, water and sewer infrastructure, light and noise pollution, pedestrian and cyclist safety, and community character impacts as well as community concerns.



# DRAFT 2022 LAND PRESERVATION, PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

## PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Please leave the completed form with us today, or mail before March 1, 2022 to:  
Anne Arundel Recreation and Parks; 1 Harry S. Truman Pkwy, Annapolis MD 21401.  
You may also email comments to [LPPRP2022@aaacounty.org](mailto:LPPRP2022@aaacounty.org).

Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States. It is a sport for every age and all types of athletes. Due to the growing population and increased popularity of pickleball in South County and all of District 7, there is an IMMEDIATE NEED for more pickleball courts. While developing the LPPRP, please take the following ideas into consideration.

1. The possibility of adding parking and 4 additional indoor pickleball courts (totaling 6), through the expansion of the existing South County Recreation Center in Harwood.
2. The possibility of enclosing the Galesville tennis courts.
3. The possibility of resurfacing and lighting the existing Galesville tennis courts.
4. The possibility of building a new indoor/outdoor dedicated pickleball facility on Recreation & Parks property in Galesville.
5. The possibility of lighting, resurfacing and painting pickleball lines on the 2 under-utilized tennis courts in Deale.

**Thank You!**



## DRAFT 2022 LAND PRESERVATION PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN

### PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

Please leave the completed form with us today, or mail before March 1, 2022 to:

Anne Arundel County Recreation and Parks, 1 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401.

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IT'S TIME for Anne Arundel County to build another Indoor Aquatic Center. In a county rich with waterways and water access, a new year round aquatic facility is very much needed. Due to the growing population in Anne Arundel County there is a need for a third swim center in Anne Arundel County to meet the needs of the citizens. While helping determine our 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan please consider the following benefits that will come from having an additional year round aquatic center for our county:

- Providing additional space for youth/adult/senior swim lesson classes(often classes fill up and there is no space to take participants of waiting lists)
- Providing additional space for water fitness classes
- Providing a much needed Therapy Pool area which has been a consistent request from our senior population
- Having the ability to increase the amount of elementary school kids that we provide the Drownproofing program for (a water safety program provided by the Board of Education for 5<sup>th</sup> graders)
- Provide wading pool space that will allow kids under the age of 3 to have swim lessons and recreational swimming
- Currently we are not able to house all of Anne Arundel County High School Swim Teams for practice, we would be able to do this for our high schoolers with the addition of a third year round Aquatic Center
- Hosting the Maryland State High School Swimming Championship
- Providing another pool with water park and splash pad features
- Expanding on the times during operating hours when Lap Swimmers can swim for fitness
- Provide additional classroom space for land fitness classes, dance classes and other specialized programs
- Provide additional pool space for the trainings that are held at our facilities with the following organizations; Department of Defense, AACo. Police Department, AACo. Fire Department, U.S. Navy, Department of National Resources, and U.S. Coast Guard for in-water training. We also host Boy and Girl Scouts, school robotics teams, and many Adaptive Recreation groups including Special Olympics

THANK YOU!

**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

Date Received	Source	Comment
5/29/2021	email	I would like to propose a splash pad be considered for Anne Arundel County. I am part of multiple facebook groups and have posed the question of a splash pad and received a lot of feedback that a splash pad is something many members of AAC would use and enjoy.I would appreciate if this would be added in to the discussion. I am happy to petition and get signatures if necessary.
6/6/2021	email	Hi, I recently signed up for the Town Hall Listening Session for the LPPRP. It appears that these sessions are being held in order by District number with the exception of my District which is 3 and seems to have gotten bumped down to July 8. Why was it the only one moved out of the chronological order? I also notice that my District was clearly not represented in 2017 or otherwise there was a glaring omission in the report. I have looked at that report which shows a list of county regions that are not conveniently located to parks. District 3 appears nowhere in those lists yet there is a significant absence of any park facilities over a huge swath of very dense residential area and includes Green Haven in particular. There are thousands of homes here. The only Recreation and Parks facilities are AACPS school ball fields (for children) and a small, run-down wharf area with a few benches. There are no sidewalks, no trails, and no safe connections to trails or parks in other districts. I already knew about this sad state of affairs. What I had not realized was that it is not being acknowledged on lists where it matters. I feel like I am beginning to sense a theme here. In any case, I plan to speak at the event. I would like to request that you move the date up to where it should be relative to District 2 (June 15) and District 4 (June 17), shifting the others down if you have to and not have us wait until July 8.
6/12/2021	email	Thank you for holding these LPPRP Listening Sessions. I have several questions. Can you please provide a specific answer to each question? I would rather be told you don't have an answer rather than be given a general but uninformative reply. The historic Childs Residence along the South Shore Trail in Millersville has fallen into disrepair since being acquired by the County and used as the South Shore trail headquarters. The home previously served as the George Miller Residence and the Millersville Store and Post Office, and it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. What steps is the County taking to restore, repair, and preserve this historical structure? What are the short- and long-term plans for the South Shore Trail Headquarters? The Childs Residence provides a great opportunity to educate residents about Anne Arundel County history and the local railroad? The bee hives on the property could be used to educate about pollinators and their role in agriculture. Will the County be taking advantage of any of these opportunities? The South Shore Trail is an asset to the County, but a number of stormwater issues remain. For example: At the intersection of Kathy Anne and the trail, the trail design has resulted in erosion and head cutting. At Arundel Station and the trail, sediment has been deposited on the trail (see pictures) creating a hazard to users and an eye sore. The stormwater BMP at this location holds water beyond 36 hours. When is the County planning to launch their "Pick up your dog's waste" program? Pet waste is a problem throughout the County, but it is particularly offensive in parks and on trails.
7/13/2021	email	The Parks and Recreation Currently own land in Galesville. We are requesting that at least 8 pickleball courts be installed on that property. If a bubble would be placed over these courts it would allow year round play. I have information on that and could share it with you. It would need lights, heat, A/C and a bathroom! We have people who work or go to school who would mostly use this in the evenings. We could get children away from electronics and they would be alot healthier! A nominal fee could be charged to each player who uses the facility. This would help to defray expenses of the operating cost. In the meantime until this could be approved, we are asking for windscreens and lights for existing tennis/pickleball courts in Galesville. It becomes quite windy there at times.Thanks to Cara Miller's assistance and support in the last three years, the numbers of pickleball players have gone from 4 to over 170! New players sign up every week. This has turned an under used facility into one with bustling activity! Therefore, we are requesting consideration be given to making Cara Miller a full time Director at South Co. Recreation Center!
7/9/2021	email	Hello- Good Morning. My sincere apologies for not making the session yesterday as I am very interested in these sessions. These sessions are important to me and they have been very informative of future recreational planning of the County. Additionally, I have some thoughts on this area as this is where I live :) Water Access - there are a few vacant homes on the waterfront that are beyond repairable condition within my own personal community of Chelsea Beach. An example would be the following property below which is next to our only natural environment (Plan 2040, Major Area) with water access. Our other areas are non-accessible or a boat ramp. Are there considerations when these opportunities present themselves for the County to acquire these properties to improve community health and provide additional water access? This home has been vacant for years and honestly is a public safety issue at this time. Roadway Safety - Lake Shore Athletic Park - PLEASE consider safety as part of your plans, many people from our neighborhood Chelsea Beach and Magothy Beach utilize this facility. Unfortunately, there is not a great egress/roadway crossing at 11th Street and Woods Road which is at the crest of a hill and a very active thruway. This area needs to provide drivers with more signage/alerts related to pedestrians (kids for their sporting events) crossing the roadway. It's so dangerous and has gotten worse the last few months with the new home construction on the corner of this intersection. I am just using this as an example and believe there are likely other scenarios that have this same issue along Woods Road closer to the main entrance/gates. Native Plant Gardens - this was a really great idea from the replay of the video and the space mentioned above could be a great location/candidate to be used for this sort of activity/near a waterway where a minimum parking area would be needed. Beachwood Park - Master Plan is surely needed for this park !! It's a great park and location. This would be a great park for a Cyclocross Course - growing very popular - See Bacon Ridge growth :) Bocce Courts - a great idea for an inclusive activity for people with disabilities. I have been to Cedar Park in Howard County and seen this activity and it was very well supported and this would be a great new activity to serve our community. Jacobsville Elementary School - I understand this is likely a school issue but I don't understand how the County is promoting open space and the use of facilities with huge no trespassing signs discouraging the use of the trails and open space at the school to the surrounding community Motorsports (Dirt Bikes/Racing) - this is a major issue across the Country not just our County. Many people in our area have to go to areas out of State or to Western MD or the lower Eastern Shore to enjoy these recreational vehicles. The County should really consider a Public-Private Partnership (P3) to address this recreational want of citizens. At a minimum, a study should be conducted for an area dedicated to motorsports. Sadly, a historic national treasure for Motorsports (Dorsey Speedway) closed decades ago and this was a major historical, financial, recreation, and community loss for our County. It is about to happen again with Capitol Raceway (Crofton) and our County will suffer even more in this recreational area from this if not supported/considered. I thank you once again for hosting these events and for your consideration.
7/9/2021	email	I didn't know about the community meeting for district 4 until it was too late but appreciate the opportunity to comment this way. Our family loves the south shore trail and uses it regularly. We are interested in its expansion and connection to existing parts (phase 1). I am a distance runner and love the option of longer runs on there. Is there anything planned in terms of development for the trail? We also use the bacon ridge and Indian landing trail regularly (Severn run) and love the work the county has done to expand trail networks. Please continue this work and your efforts to preserve forests and make them available through trails for Public use. There is a large forested property at herald harbor road and river road up for sale with competing interests between a conservancy and a developer. If there is anything aaco parks can do to ensure this property close to the Severn it is protected we would be eternally grateful.
7/22/2021	email	Can another disc golf course be built at one of the County parks (i.e. Downs or Quiet Waters). It is great source of exercise and enjoyable for residents and families.
7/21/2021	email	Thank you for pointing out the park (Central Avenue Park). I am advocating for an addition to the park of 6 1/2 acres of woodland adjacent to it of similar topography. The property is zoned RA but the owners want to develop it as commercial. We have an organized group, Edgewater Citizens Association, that does not want to see it developed as commercial and would like to see it added to the Central Avenue Park as its value for ecological services is great and it would be good for hiking and birding.
8/6/2021	email	My name is _____, a recent northeast high school graduate. I am writing this email today because I was informed that that have no permanent bocce courts at any AA County park. So all of us who are graduates or future graduates, will have nowhere to go locally to continue the lifetime sport of bocce after leaving Anne Arundel county public schools. It would mean a lot if Anne Arundel county built and set a bocce courts in local parks so kids and the generic public can play some bocce ball at the park. I feel it also will help the community by adding more things to do and play at the park.
12/12/2021	email	Hello, I am wondering if Anne Arundel County is able to update their parks with more up to date outdoor equipment like pull bars, dip bars. Or set up a dedicated outdoor gym, something similar to what Prince George's County did in Hyattsville. This would also encourage more people to visit Anne Arundel County Parks, enabling more people to workout while enjoying fresh air, as well being an alternative to paying gym membership fees. At Broadneck Park there are certain stations along a path that one can do workouts at, however, many of these need to be updated. For instance where there is a leg stretch bench, that could be a dip bench. Here are three companies that provide outdoor equipment
12/28/2021	email	I am a member of the South County Pickleball Club. We play almost daily at the south county rec center (only 2courts) on a converted basketball court. I have broken my collar bone hitting the concrete wall because the courts have no regulation space. We have a woeful lack of courts and lag far behind surrounding areas. Pickleball players searching for local playing time now number in the thousands. We are all tax payers and I would like to see sports facilities built that allow us to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Please consider both indoor and outdoor courts. Thank you.

**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

12/28/2021	email	Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports. Please consider expanding the existing South County rec center to increase courts for indoor use. Also outdoor courts.Thanks
12/29/2021	email	My comment is that these parks are not accessible to those on foot and the bus routes do not go near these locations. No sidewalks for safe walks; no bike lanes for bicycles.So frustrating.
12/29/2021	email	Hello, I just want to thank you for your work on the LPPRP and voice my strong support for the South Shore trail. I have been on Phase I multiple times and hope that I can enjoy Phase III and Phase IV to stop having to take my life into my hands riding and running on the side of General's Highway, a 50mph road with heavy traffic, multiple bars, and still heavy pedestrian use. As a homeowner and proud taxpayer in the county for almost a decade, I fully support these efforts and hope the county will continue to contribute towards their PROMPT completion. I know there are many county priorities and everyone has their own opinions, so thanks for considering mine.
12/29/2021	email	I would be happy to discuss any of the comments below. It is vitally important that we include references and align with both Move Anne Arundel and the Anne Arundel Trail Network. These are both widely identified in county presentations to MDOT, our transportation priorities letter, public budget presentations, etc. The trails portion of the LPPRP should align with these other plans, CIP and our grant pursuits. *Comments on Draft LPPRP by pg#* 3 Change this paragraph concerning trails: * The County owns and manages seven long-distance trails in partnership with communities and state agencies. Most of these trails have sections still to be developed. Three new trail systems are planned: the South Shore Trail, South County trail system, and Patapsco Greenway Trail. An 80- mile paddling trail on the Patuxent River is managed by the Patuxent River Commission. Annapolis has a 19-mile trail system, partially implemented, known as the Colonial Annapolis Maritime Trail.* The County contains about 55 miles of paved shared-use paths which are used for walking, biking and other devices for both recreation and transportation.These trails are owned by county, City of Annapolis and state agencies. New trails such as the Broadneck Trail and South Shore Trail are being built as well as smaller connectors to connect more homes and destinations. The envisioned Anne Arundel Trail Network provides a vision for connecting these trails into a network that includes connectivity to schools, transit, employment centers, recreation, other destinations and neighboring trail networks to our south, west and north. These trails are vital not just for recreation but for achieving the goals of the *Move Anne Arundel *transportation plan which calls for reducing our dependence on cars by providing safe, convenient access to walking and biking routes, especially in our town centers. There are also a growing number of natural surface trails including Bacon Ridge and Waterworks Trails. 6 Funding --- Add: Much of the design and construction of trails is funded by state and federal grants such as the Maryland Kim Lamphier Bikeways Program and the federal Transportation Alternatives Program. There will be increased federal funding and new programs for trail-building including the RAISE program. The county and state must work together to streamline its capacity for securing and executing grant projects to take full advantage of these growing sources. 12 Include references to Move Anne Arundel and the in-process 2022 Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan update 24 Add reference to Move Anne Arundel and the specific goals for changing mode share countywide and in the town centers. The trail network plays a vital role in achieving these goals 37 Add : The county's Pedestrian / Bicycle Master Plan is being updated in 2022 and will encompass the entire county with a strong focus on the role of trails for human-powered transportation. 49 This map needs some updating to align with the AA County MDOT Transportation Priorities Letter, the AA Trail Network and our grant pursuits. For example, it does not show a planned connection from Rt 175 to Arundel Mills to BWI Trail. Also, the Annapolis Colonial Maritime Trail is NOT a trail, it is a ROUTE and should be referred to as such. We should only show actual trails as per the bike layer in the county GIS. In Annapolis it will be important to show planned extension of the Poplar Trail and connections from the USNA Bridge to City Dock and to the stadium as well as other connectors. 50 City of Annapolis: 15 miles of Colonial Trail complete is not true (unless it is counting sidewalks and sharrow; neither of which are trails.). The AACBAC shows about 3.5 miles of trail in the City (Poplar, Spa Creek, Stadium) 65 Incorrectly shows all of the Colonial Maritime Trail as a TRAIL. Only show the actual trails as on the AAC GIS Bike Layer. 75 TRAILS add: and the buildout of the Anne Arundel Trail Network and connectors 80+ I do not think we are committed or even plan \$13M for Rt 2 hiker biker bridge. We have already completed the B&A Connector instead. We should not list this bridge. Instead the list should include completion of the connection from BWI to Baltimore and also filling other gaps like Arundel Mills to BWI, and USNA Bridge to Stadium and King George St. We could also include a generic line called " Trail Connectors" Also, City estimate of \$3M to complete trails seems too low. This list of projects should align with our CIP, AATN and current view of trail priorities. Thank you,
12/29/2021	email	The planned / in-progress South Shore trail is a great asset for Anne Arundel county. It's great to see that phase 2 is moving along and I very much hope that the (next in line) phase 4 is not far behind, as some reports seem to show. Please continue to plan for and budget for all of the South Shore trail!
12/29/2021	email	To whom it may concern: Thank you for the published study. Lots of interesting information to review. I'd like to highlight your finding that "Equestrian Trails, Mountain Biking, BMX and Skateboard Park recorded high apparent unmet demand as a proportion of present users". Additionally in the public sessions "pump track/mountain bike facilities" came up disproportionately. For my entire life (36 Y/O) AACO has lacked any real significant investment in this area. I think that it's hilarious that Rockburn park is mentioned 4 times in the survey - a HoCo park - simply bc people would like to see something similar here. I think if you talk to Melanie Nystom (opened the skills park at rockburn) or anyone at HoCo parks they would echo the sentiment that a bike skills park is good ROI. I guarantee AACO spends more mowing/seeding/repairing baseball fields that are rarely used than improving/building new action sports facilities. I think representation in this user group is probably vastly underestimated as well. Probably speaks to your survey strategies/influence of stakeholders at Parks and Rec that pickleball is mentioned 94 times and has considerably more investment in the past decade in AACO than skateboarding or bmx (both are olympic sports, pickleball is not). Additionally, its hard to gauge demand for something like a bikepark/skatepark/pumptrack if nothing like it exists. Since they built rockburn skills park, I would bet use of the facility has grown by 100% every year. It's packed every day now, used to be a super niche user group. Additionally, I think that you must consider opening more parks to mountain bikes. The fact that you cannot ride a bike in beverly triton beach park, but your rangers can drive F150's on the trails is very insulting. That park is huge and would be much easier to explore on two wheels (most people arent hiking more than a few miles). Lastly, in future surveys, I think you should better delineate categories of activity. When you say "adventure sports" I personally would lump skateboarding and mountain biking in that category. I think many respondents probably did. In future surveys I suggest putting a category for "action sports" (skating, scootering, bmx, mountain biking). A paved pump track for instance would be an asset for all of these user groups. Dream scenario. AACO builds a world class velosolutions bikepark where the crownville hospital currently resides. \$3 million public financing, \$1million private.
1/5/2022	email	Thank you for your continued work on improving our county. I live in Annapolis and my family has enjoyed the water and newer trails at Bacon Ridge and WaterWorks. I read the report and hoping some consideration be given to a better quality skateboard park as they have in PG County (Allen Pond skatepark and Walker Mill skatepark). These both have features that are appropriate for various levels of skateboarding, scootering, and for small bikes. Also, AA County could use more high-quality field complexes for sports. It is very difficult to find adequate field time for sports these days and many coaches, programs must go to private organizations such as schools. I appreciate you hearing our thoughts.
12/30/2021	email	Hello, I would like to offer the following comments on the draft LPPRP Plan: 1. Construction of trails needs to be pursued with greater urgency. People are stuck in cars because there is no other safe way to go places for most people in this county. Building out the trail network will provide better access to parks (and other destinations) and provide a place for children and adults to safely walk and ride bikes. If people have a safe alternative to driving, then you won't need more parking spaces at our parks. 2. Parking Area Expansion Capital Project (\$6M) - Expanding parking lots at our public parks is a very bad idea. Our park land should be green space, not paved car storage. It looks like several of our parks already use around 20% of their space for car storage (with some vehicles left there overnight), and that's not what public parks are for. Providing alternatives to driving (trails, sidewalks, transit) is much more cost-effective, more environmentally friendly, and more directly serves communities near the parks. Spend that \$6 million on trails instead of parking spaces. 3.4. Please stop building artificial/synthetic turf fields and work on replacing existing artificial turf with real grass. Our children are coming home with injuries and burns from the artificial turf fields. (In summer, the fields get so hot that sitting on the artificial grass will cause burns.) The rubber pellets get everywhere, creating lots of pollution around our schools and parks. FIFA has banned artificial turf and the NFL teams are being urged to get rid of their artificial turf fields because of health and safety concerns. The cost of maintaining real grass is cheaper than replacing turf fields every 8 to 10 years.
1/9/2022	email	Ref: LPPRP page 17 – Invasive Species Management: The Division of Natural and Cultural Resources is the Departmental lead on invasive species management, in partnership with other County agencies. The division's current focus is on a multi-year effort to eradicate non-native phragmites, a perennial, aggressive wetland grass that outcompetes native plants and displaces native animals. This LPPRP retains the 2013 plan's recommendation that Anne Arundel County develop a comprehensive management plan to address NNI. Where is this Division of Natural and Cultural Resources? All I can find is Cultural Resources division. I am particularly interested in this phragmites project. Is there a plan yet? If not, is there one under development?



**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

1/9/2022	email	Ref LPPRP page 81: Planned capital projects comprise new schools, replacements, modernizations, and additions. The school system's CIP includes: • Construction of Crofton Area High School, design and construction of Old Mill West High School and renovations to two high schools; Isn't Crofton High School construction done now?
1/9/2022	email	Ref LPPRP page 90: Millersville Park Development 4 To develop a sports complex with 4 to 6 multipurpose fields with lighting, irrigation, concession/comfort station, parking and related amenities at the 33acre Millersville site. This would help to address the field shortage in this region of the park. Should the last word in this reference be "county" rather than "park"? A more general comment on recreational "fields" .. I saw no evidence that any more fields were needed. Even Map III-7 shows almost all of the county has access to these fields. I did see that the surveys tended to favor soccer and lacrosse fields over baseball/softball, so perhaps these are what you are calling "multipurpose fields" or "athletic fields", but should we be converting some baseball/softball fields to soccer fields?
1/11/2022	email	I am giving my opinion about expanding usage of B/T Beach: The roads ( mainly Rt.214 past Muddy Creek Rd. ) cannot handle the added traffic. Non-locals already drive too fast going to this beach & Mayo Beach park. Turning onto Shoreham Beach road at a 60 degree angle is dangerous enough for us locals ( blind turn with full speed traffic coming from Beverly Beach). Non-locals will cause accidents, not knowing the speed others are approaching that intersection! AND the hairpin curve to turn towards Saunders Point! The Bay water is WAY shallow! They could wade. Swimming would require walking over 100 yards beyond the rock jetties! The kids already climb the jetties! They are slippery & full of snakes. County liability!! You do not have enough Park Rangers ALREADY! Visitors do & park where they want as it is! Illegal fishing is rampant! BTW, there are very few fish in Deep Pond. I know, I took my kayak back there. BTW the deepest part is only THREE FEET DEEP! ( I have a fishfinder on my yak.) Stop listening to the water access committee. They aren't local. They don't see the traffic. Those jokers wanted to put boat ramps in SR Farm Park & BT Beach! BOTH too shallow to make work without dredging & ANNUAL silting removal! That new park farther south may be a good one for swimming. Please listen to the locals!
1/11/2022	email	This park should not be used for swimming or wading. We have Mayo Park for such activities. Do not turn a wonderful nature park into something more than a nature park. The Mayo peninsula traffic is already too much. Don't over-burden the current infrastructure.
1/12/2022	email	Thank you for sending out this thorough report! My husband and I moved to southern Davidsonville, along the Lothian border 2 years ago. To date I am still driving back to Prince Georges, where we are originally from, to use community center facilities in Upper Marlboro and Brandywine because there are no options in Section 7. The facilities that I use have excellent gym equipment and offer many free outdoor classes such as yoga and zumba. We are paying taxes just as high in Anne Arundel but have no options in this area to use a community center. We also drive all the way to Fort Washington to have the opportunity to use an indoor ice rink. These are desperately needed in this section of Anne Arundel. The parks along Sands Road have very meager standards when compared to parks in Prince Georges. The kayak put in at Davidsonville Park has been permanently blocked to vehicles to the point that we could not possibly hand carry 2 kayaks to the put in. We deserve so much better! Thank you for the opportunity to chime in!
1/18/2022	email	Hello, My name is _____ and I am a resident of District 6. I would like to see more plans for Multi-use paved trails in District 6 and in Anne Arundel County as a whole. We have a bunch of disconnected trails but we need a more cohesive plan to connect them so we have a county wide network of paved Multi-use trails so they can not only be used for recreation but also for transportation. Some of the most important locations where I believe we need to add multi-use paved trails are: - along the entire length of Forest Drive- extending the B&A Trail south over the Naval Academy Bridge, south down Taylor Avenue and have it connect to the existing Poplar Trail.- along the entire length of Bestgate Road and Rowe Blvd heading into downtown Annapolis - over the Spa Creek Bridge into Eastport, along 6th street, south Along Chesapeake Avenue and Bay Ridge Avenue, connecting to the new trail at Forest Drive. (This would create a direct path from the B&A Trail, through Downtown Annapolis, through Eastport, to Quite Waters Park.) Thanks
1/14/2022	email	Designation of Beverly Triton Nature Park as a Public Beach would be contrary to the purpose of a Nature Park. Beach activities do not foster a healthy and nurturing environment where the flora and fauna can prosper, thrive and be protected from human disturbance. Swimming and wading is harmful and disruptive to the tidal ecosystem, and completely inappropriate for a Nature Park situated on the Chesapeake Bay. You are urged to reconsider the planned use for Beverly Triton Nature Park to exclude wading and swimming and not to designate as a Public Beach.
1/20/2022	email	To whom it may concern, In response to the draft 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input, I believe that Anne Arundel County would benefit from additional disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf provides everyone an inexpensive way to get outside for 18 holes of fun and exercise. Thank you,
1/20/2022	email	To whom it may concern, I am reaching out in regards to providing input for the Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan. I believe that there is a need in this county to include more disc golf courses within the county. With only two courses in the county (Kinder Farm Park and North Glen), we are beginning to see the boom of popularity flow into our area and a lot of people playing these courses. We believe that the community as a whole could benefit from finding locations for additional courses, such as Quiet Waters Park. Although the sport follows similar rules to real golf, disc golf gives everyone an opportunity to play for free and a reason to get outside for 18 holes of exercise. Also, if it wasn't for disc golf, there are some parts of this wonderful community that I would have most likely not visited, specifically Kinder Farm Park. With the rapid increase in popularity, Anne Arundel County has an opportunity to be a part of the growth of the sport and shine some additional light on the county from all over the great state of Maryland. Happy to answer any questions you may have.
1/21/2022	email	Hello! I'm the President of the Patapsco Valley Disc Golf Club < <a href="https://www.PatapscoDiscGolf.org">https://www.PatapscoDiscGolf.org</a> >. I live very close to Anne Arundel county and want to do everything I can to support the much-needed growth of disc golf courses throughout Maryland. The sport of disc golf has seen incredible growth since 2020 . The disc golf community in Anne Arundel noticed that the 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan mentioned disc golf as an interest group. Disc golf is an incredibly accessible and affordable activity for individuals, families, and friends. Anne Arundel County would greatly benefit from new disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf is also a very "COVID-safe" activity, given the fact that it is played as an individual sport. Existing courses in Anne Arundel such as Kinder Farm Park are well known throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, and we could absolutely use more high-quality courses in the area. Disc golf courses are inexpensive to build, can be designed around other park features, and have minimal impact on the environment, making them perfect for parks. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions regarding disc golf growth, outreach, course construction, events, volunteering, etc. I am a local player involved in all aspects of the sport, and have experience working with state parks and Howard County parks as well. Thank you.
1/21/2022	email	To whom it may concern, I saw the draft 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan and I wanted to add my input. I believe that Anne Arundel County would benefit from additional disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf has given me and my family opportunities to get outside together. It has encouraged me to get into better shape and provides a great opportunity to meet new people. It is an inexpensive way to get out and enjoy nature Thank you for considering disc golf courses as you move forward with the LPPRP.
1/21/2022	email	To whom it may concern, In response to the draft 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input, I believe that Anne Arundel County would benefit from additional disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf provides everyone an inexpensive way to get outside for 18 holes of fun and exercise. Thank you,
1/21/2022	email	As the person who started/manages North Glen Disc Golf Course I think the county would definitely benefit from more of the sport in this area. North Glen and Kinder can show statistics of how much the sport has grown and how much people are constantly getting out to parks more often because of these courses. Best part about this sport is the individuals who take to it end up cleaning and managing the parks where the courses are located, I know we have removed dumpsters full of trash and cut back acres of greenbriers at North Glen.
1/21/2022	email	Good Morning. I'll be honest, I didn't read the draft but wanted to address an issue that bugs the heck out of me. I am very happy to live in a neighborhood that is connected to parks, schools, shopping, and other neighborhoods by a multi-use paved trail. I am a huge supporter of walking/biking paths especially when they link to other trails. It is so good for the health, safety, and well being of all. But for heaven's sake would someone please address the issue of these two missing sections? The first is especially irritating since I see no engineering obstacle that prevents the existing sidewalk being connected to the newish trail. It makes absolutely no sense and appears to be a planning oversight. The location is at the end of Bellerive with a traffic light and College Parkway. Why the gap???? I feel terrible for anyone pushing a stroller or wheelchair when they come to this unnecessary hurdle!!!! Please connect the existing sidewalk to the path! It's just.....so....dumb!

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1/21/2022	email	The next issue is tougher to remedy from an engineering standpoint and it looks like the planners just shrugged their shoulders and went oops. Anne Arundel County built this beautiful and useful trail but really dropped the ball at this intersection. This incredibly dangerous pedestrian intersection just happens to be located at where Green Holly Dr and College Parkway meet. This is where the high schoolers cross to access Broadneck Park for parking but also for the beginning of their cross country track team runs. Currently you would need to cross Green Holly, walk on the other side, cross Green Holly again and then cross College Parkway if you wanted to be safe. Nobody and I mean nobody does that!!!! The existing sidewalk, narrow as it be, needs to connect to the trail on the High School side of the road! People, including myself, take their chances on the shoulder of Green Holly because it makes the most sense. Please, please, please fix this engineering debacle! Thank you very much for letting me vent! I appreciate that the good people at Parks and Recreation work hard to improve this county so thank you.
1/21/2022	email	Greetings, I am 34 years old and residing in Arnold (Mago Vista). Growing up, my father was in the military requiring us to move around the US throughout all of my childhood (Richmond, VA, Honolulu, HI, Pittsburgh, PA, Key West, FL, etc). I've been forced to constantly make new friends. In 2001, my family finally made their last move to the Arnold/Annapolis area. After attending middle school at Severn River, Highschool at Broadneck, and community college at AAC, I fell in love with the area. My parents moved back to Hawaii where we came from. There were attempts to move back to Hawaii, but everytime I came back missing Annapolis/Arnold. Eventually in 2011, I met my future wife whose family lives in Cape St. Claire. We've recently had our first born who will be exactly 10 months old tomorrow. You're probably asking, "Why the heck is all of this relevant to disc golf in AACO?." I want to show you that my roots are in this area and I am focused on making this place even more awesome. Even before disc golf was in my life, I regularly arranged pickup games of Ultimate Frisbee in the Arnold area. We eventually got to large group numbers of over 30 people but were constantly kicked out of parks, such as Broadneck Park, Grauls Field, etc so it became difficult to get groups together. It was crazy to me how parks didn't allow a bunch of people ages ranging from 10 - 65 years old play frisbee in a public park, on a field that wasn't being used. COVID-19 quickly put a halt to our fight to play Ultimate Frisbee, which left me and a bunch of my friends to sit at home all quarantine with no sports to play. This is when I discovered Disc Golf. I wasn't until about June of 2021 where I really got into the sport. I asked a few friends to join in and we all quickly became hooked. It's a safe, exciting, affordable sport that we can get exercise and enjoy nature all in one. Disc Golf accommodates players of all sizes. My disc golf crew is growing and although AACO has a few courses, we normally travel outside of it to get to some of our other favorite courses such as Patapsco State Park, Rockburn Park, Druid Hill in Baltimore, etc. Heck, I've traveled across the United States to Arizona, California, NC to experience new courses that I've heard about. I currently have a trip planned to Maine (of all places) to go to the top disc golf course in the US next year. Originally, I wanted my child to play football, but now I'm all in for raising him as a disc golf kid! I've already taken him out to a few courses to ride along and experience it. I look forward to the day he can join me in the game. I even got my wife to throw some and she doesn't typically play games/sports ha. If you actually read this far and took anything from this email, I can without a doubt say Anne Arundel County can benefit greatly from additional courses. It allows community members and visitors from outside of AACO really enjoy our parks especially during this new world of COVID. I've been investing both time and money into researching course development, acreage required for a course, process for applying with the County, etc to get one up and coming in the Area. If given the chance, I would love to put forward my time, effort, and resources into helping make this happen in the place I call home for my family and friends. Thank you very much for your time.
1/23/2022	email	Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States. It is a sport for every age and all types of athletes. Due to the growing population and increased popularity of pickleball in South County and all of District 7, there is an IMMEDIATE NEED for more pickleball courts. While developing the LPPRP, please take the following ideas into consideration.1. The possibility of adding parking and 4 additional indoor pickleball courts (totaling 6), through the expansion of the existing South County Recreation Center in Harwood. 2. The possibility of enclosing the Galesville tennis courts. 3. The possibility of resurfacing and lighting the existing Galesville tennis courts. 4. The possibility of building a new indoor/outdoor dedicated pickleball facility on Recreation & Parks property in Galesville. 5. The possibility of lighting, resurfacing and painting pickleball lines on the 2 under-utilized tennis courts in Deale. Thank You!
1/25/2022	email	Hello, I am an Anne Arundel County resident and avid disc golfer. I have enjoyed the course at Kinder Farm Park immensely. As it has grown in popularity it has become quite crowded. The course has attracted thousands of disc golfers from around the region to come play. Additional courses in Anne Arundel County should be considered. Quiet Waters park would make an excellent location for a new disc golf course. Please consider this in your development plans. Thank you!
1/25/2022	email	To whom it may concern, In response to the 2022 land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input,I strongly feel like AA county needs more disc golf courses. This is the first hobby I've ever had that I can afford and therefore actually commit to. It has given me a purpose beyond just working 40 hours a week and paying taxes until my death. Disc golf is my life and I know it could be to you too! Thank you for your time
1/25/2022	email	To whom it may concern, In response to the draft 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input, I believe that Anne Arundel County would benefit from additional disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf provides everyone an inexpensive way to get outside for 18 holes of fun and exercise. Thank you, A local AAC Disc Golfer
1/25/2022	email	Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the US. It is a light aerobic activity that can improve physical health. Increased socialization decreases isolation that may decrease depression and improve overall mental health. While this activity has been embraced by seniors, it is also played across generations. It is something that can be played by grandparents with their children and grandchildren. It is an easy sport to learn and can contribute to improving fitness at any age. It is important to increase the recreational facilities in this area of the county as well as access to improved Pickleball facilities. Dedicated Pickleball facilities are widely used in other communities and lighting can extend the usage during spring, summer and fall. Many tennis courts are barely used and lining these to encourage dual use would increase access. Expansion of indoor Pickleball facilities in the South County area would also increase the ability to play in inclement weather. On a personal note, this sport has helped me transition to living in Maryland and find many new acquaintances and friends. I would also like to request that there be increased access to beaches in the area. In particular, the Beverly Beach area is lovely but the entire area has no parking signs. I have wanted to use the playground with grandchildren but have been unable to park. I love the beautiful rivers, bay views and hiking trails in the area and am aware of the need to balance preservation with access. it is important to promote recreation. Are there any plans to develop to Old KMart store into any recreational facility? Thank you.
1/26/2022	email	Thank you for soliciting input for your draft plan. As a County resident, I'd like to suggest that we incorporate Disc Golf wherever possible / feasible across our public lands. I caught on to the sport during the pandemic but have found it to be a wonderful family sport, accessible to all kinds of people, and inexpensive to play and maintain. It's changed my life. I'm addicted. It doesn't require much to pull a course together and startup costs are cheap. Individuals can start with 1 or 2 discs or loaners that cost very little money. Often community clubs and groups will help with maintenance. Disc golf drives traffic, and support for the parks. If you see an opportunity, I'd highly encourage you to consider disc golf for public spaces - even a few holes in a space offers an opportunity to play or practice with friends in the outdoors. Thanks for all you do!
1/26/2022	email	Good afternoon,I wanted to provide a few comments to the plan. I believe that the needs of the communities and residents of Anne Arundel county are mostly addressed well. I do want to add a few things that need addressing with respect to Beverly Triton Nature Park. I do not believe that it should be open for swimming, at least without some major modifications to the park structure. As a regular patron of the park, I have seen many of the bathers coming that smoke (leaving discarded cigarette butts on the beach to float into the bay) and play loud music (which disturbs the wildlife and is contrary to the concept of a nature park). At the very least, there should be no smoking in the park, and no amplified sound. Other nature parks, such as Whitemarsh in Bowie (PG County), have enforced this with ranger presence. Also, the beach should be off limits during Horseshoe Crab mating season. The past two years, I have seen people digging in the areas posted off limits for the HSC eggs, basically ignoring the signage. Luckily, most of the HSCs vacate the area before beach goers arrive in the early mornings in late Spring/early Summer, but those that do not are in danger of harassment. The cliffs and beach areas in the northern area of the park have seen severe erosion since the park has been open to visitors. And the number of HSCs that come to the beach each year are a mere fraction of what we used to see 20 years ago. In essence, having a public bathing beach and having a naturally sensitive area would seem to be mutually exclusive. Additionally, there are public health and safety issues, as there is no lifeguard, and beaches remain open for swimming even after heavy rains, which usually adversely affect bacteria levels. These issues could be mitigated by a strong ranger presence, closing the beach to swimming during HSC season, having a lifeguard, and establishing rules about trash disposal, smoking and radios/external music. Making these changes to current operations would likely be difficult to enforce without more personnel, and thus, more expensive.I understand that there is pressure to have more areas to swim in the county. Having unchecked swimming in an environmentally sensitive nature park such as Beverly Triton should not be part of this plan.

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1/26/2022	email	This plan currently calls for 4-6 multi-purpose ball fields on Millersville Park. I am a resident of this area and feel that this many fields, along with the estimated parking of ~400 spaces, is out of line with this community and its needs. Also, the additional traffic and congestion along Millersville Road, virtually across from Millersville Elementary school and less than a mile away from a failing intersection at MD Route 3, is unacceptable. A "sports facility" of the magnitude suggested in this plan will change the character of this neighborhood and disrupt the surrounding neighborhoods. A park with 1-2 fields (open space fields would be more appropriate), no lights, a picnic area, playground area, 2 tennis courts, 2 pickleball courts and perhaps even a Disc Golf course would be more in keeping with the rural nature of this community. These are just some suggestions of what I would prefer to see in this park design.
1/29/2022	email	To whom it may concern, In response to the draft 2022 Land Preservation Parks and Recreation Plan to provide input, I believe that Anne Arundel County would benefit from additional disc golf courses at existing local parks or unused land. Disc golf provides everyone an inexpensive way to get outside for 18 holes of fun and exercise. In a time where social distance has become the norm, Disc Golf provides a great way for entire communities to get out and have some free fun! Thank you, A local AAC Disc Golfer
1/29/2022	email	Some people in my community down Generals Hwy seems to find this proposed recreational facility scary and threatening. Please, please, please don't allow a few anti-change, rabble rousers kill this wonderful public work that will give us and our kids another opportunity to get off devices and go exercise. Many times I have enjoyed meeting friends to walk the new rail-trail in that area. It has been a real blessing and many times I have hoped it will be extended some how. Hopefully this project connects to that trail. Thank you for public places to get to know one another and be a community in times of division. I hope this proposed project will include a playground area for the small ones and their parents to meet one another for real relationships and mutual support.
2/1/2022	email	I live in Laurel and west county gets ignored. Hope we will be considered in parks planning.
2/1/2022	email	Dear County Planning Team: I am voter and a resident of the Overlea Farms Community across the street from the proposed Athletic Fields Complex on Millersville Road. I am opposed to the County's new plan for Millersville Park, which would include concession stands, irrigation systems for the fields, night lighting, and parking for 320 to 480 cars. This is a residential area with an Elementary School nearby and access areas for the South Shore Trail a couple of hundred yards away from both Millersville Road and Waterbury Road. Implementing a complex of such a large scale is out of character with the local community and is unwanted by residents such as me. Additional traffic on inferior roadways such as Millersville Road and the Millersville Road/Route 3 intersection is not a smart idea. There are not adequate sidewalks nor room for bicyclists on this sections of Millersville Road - I know myself - have attempted to walk and bike on this road, and it is extremely dangerous. Let's fix that problem first before building athletic complexes. Also, as a homeowner with a well for water, I am very concerned about the quality and quantity of the groundwater if such a complex is implemented. In addition, there will undoubtedly be a negative impact on stormwater and associated pollutants on the Severn and Jabez Branch which could undo current water restoration efforts. I am not opposed to a small park for the community's use - but not such a massive complex, which is out of character with the local community. If I may a further suggestion on the planning process for consideration? Instead of developing plans and trying to fit them into communities, how about asking homeowners in communities upfront, for what they would like to see in their community, instead? Thank you.
2/2/2022	email	The 'new' plan for Millersville Park may be even worse than the proposed tennis facility previously considered for the area. Adding ball fields and parking spaces to support the activities on the fields is NOT what this community needs or wants. Has anyone ever considered asking the neighborhood residents what would be best for the community? A general park that has a playground, swing sets, picnic tables and the like would be welcome in this community. The area is not equipped to handle the additional traffic and the additional noise from the ballfields would not be welcome in our neighborhood. Please vote NO for this proposal.
2/5/2022		Please don't build this... right in my back yard... • Don't place 4-6 athletic fields with irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking at Millersville Park (as stated on page 82 of the draft 2022 Land Preservation, Recreation and Parks Plan). • The ballfields plan will have significant negative impacts on traffic, the environment, stormwater, noise, light pollution, Millersville Elementary School, and our community's character. • Instead, design a Park that provides mix of amenities that fits within site and infrastructure limitations. • Engage local communities to identify a mix that works for the County and local communities. • Make the Park a valued place for users of different ages and interests, not just a collection of ballfields.
2/6/2022	email	I thought it would be useful to write down my understanding of this project now that it has taken a turn towards multi use fields for Lacrosse, soccer and Football. I myself am an engineer and have worked many times with the firm representing the county. While they are good at understanding and designing for the average usages, they are not considering the worst-case scenarios. With 6 fields during a lacrosse tournament, there will be a minimum of 6 teams associated with each field that is in use. Two teams coming off, two teams active and 2 teams preparing. Six teams for 6 fields are 36 teams. 26 teams with an average of 22 players per team is 792 players. If only one car is associated with a player, there is a base of 800 cars. Add in 24 referees, vendors and foot trucks and the number of cars increases. I have heard there may be somewhere in the range of 500 parking places planned. I have not been afforded the opportunity to see the preliminary plan. If 500 spaces are correct, the tournaments will outpace the facility and we will end up with persons trying to park all along Millersville Road, which is not feasible and will produce a hazard. We see examples of this all around the county during tournaments like Summer Exposure. Parks like Bell Branch are overwhelmed by these events and participant vehicles spill out onto 424. In the end, a sports complex of any type is not an ideal use of this space in such a tight area with limited infrastructure surrounding the park. The county should consider the sunk cost fallacy and evaluate selling the property in this market so the resources can be used towards existing parks and other more appropriate properties for such sports facilities. I have been involved with youth athletics, both at the rec and club level since about 2001. This included serving as the commissioner of the Arden Lacrosse program and its club level teams. I was in discussions with the County Rec and Park department at the time Chaney turned over the department to Anthony. These discussions involved a potential public/private partnership with the intent to convert existing grass fields to turf fields. We needed to aggregate several fields at one location and were in the process of surveying which existing facilities could work for this. At that time the county suggested the farm on Millersville Road. This was a surprise to me as I knew nothing about the county purchasing this property, just down the street from where I live. I explained why this location would not work for the purpose I was looking for as the infrastructure along Millersville Road could not support it. I told the county at that time I did not understand why they bought the property in the first place and that the surrounding community would find the idea of multipurpose fields with high mast lighting a less than desirable situation. They indicated they did not have money at that time to do anything with it and were just sitting on it until the time came to place a project there. I offered my help in starting a dialogue with the community at that time and I never heard from them about it again. I only became aware of the intent to place a tennis facility there years later, when neighbors notified me. Now that the tennis facility has been taken off the table, for many good reasons, the county is now pitching a concept that is much more invasive to the community than the tennis facility. This seems counter intuitive as the same reasons to dismiss the idea of the tennis facility are exacerbated by the multipurpose field concept. If the county were to complete such a project, with 6 artificial turf fields, there would be an inevitable use related to soccer and lacrosse tournaments. Speaking specifically of the lacrosse tournaments, I can tell you from years of firsthand experience, that these events will be a fiasco along Millersville Road.
2/7/2022		The County DRP has proposed to build 4-6 athletic fields with lights, irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking at Millersville Park. This project in addition to having significant negative impacts on traffic, stormwater, noise, light pollution, trash along our roads, Millersville Elementary School, and the rural character of our community, it will negatively impact water quality and aquatic life in Jabez Branch and the Severn River and could hinder restoration progress. The continued conversion of the remaining greenspace and natural areas to more highly and impervious uses in the Jabez Branch will hinder or negate the existing and planned restoration efforts making it difficult to meet the County's goal to protect through acquisition, easement or regulatory protection this resource. The use of Millersville Park as a collection of ballfields will make achieving this goal more difficult. The increase in impervious cover from the parking area, concession stand, comfort station and the fields themselves will affect water filtration, stormwater runoff and overall water quality these water ways. I do not want this large athletic complex. Please replace the references to it in the LPPRP with text that says that DRP will work with local communities to create a less invasive park that is appropriate for its location. That is, a park that fits in a rural residential area across from Millersville Elementary School on land draining to a State and County ecologically valuable stream – Jabez Branch. And a park that does not worsen traffic and safety problems. It is important to remove and replace the 4-6 fields plan from the LPPRP because it is the countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years.
2/7/2022		Writing to let you know that as a Millersville community member, I do not want a large athletic complex at Millersville Park such as the one proposed. Please replace the references to it in the LPPRP with text that says that DRP will work with local communities to create a less invasive park that is appropriate for its location. That is, a park that fits in a rural residential area across from Millersville Elementary School on land draining to a State and County ecologically valuable stream – Jabez Branch. And a park that does not worsen traffic and safety problems. It is important to remove and replace the 4-6 fields plan from the LPPRP because it is the countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years. Thank you

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2/8/2022	email	Has consideration been given to lighting for the BWI and B&A trails so they can be used at night (I am thinking about the trails as safe transportation, not recreation)? Will the bridge on the WB&A Trail connecting Anne Arundel and Prince Georges Counties really happen in 2022? How has the increased use of parks during the pandemic affected future planning and funding?
44602	email	<p>In reviewing the LPPRP for Anne Arundel County, several issues seem pretty relevant in the considerations and potential activities/facilities planned for the future. I would first like to compliment the committees involved for a thorough collection of data, geographic breakdowns, and current opportunities for county residents. I was also glad to see the differentiation of considerations based on the nature of the districts of the county. It is certainly not easy to address everyone's concerns, but there is also room to have opportunities for all. Specific considerations that I feel need to be reviewed and addressed are: 1) A lack of indoor swimming and skating facilities that are amenable to competitive sports. There is a large percentage of youth in this county that would love to be involved in competitive swimming, but have no opportunity because of a lack of space and staff. All of the club swim teams are run out of private or proprietary pools except for Annapolis Swim Club, and there is little space or opportunity for other teams to access county facilities. High school swimming also suffers from a lack of space in the two county pools, and geographically costs the school system tens of thousands of dollars annually to transport students many miles to a county facility, not to mention the need to rent some private pool spaces for other teams. Additionally, considering the number of teams active within the county, both scholastically and on a club level, the county needs to have at least one major facility that can host major competitions in a public setting with good transportation access and parking. This could obviously be combined with other sporting venues (gyms, rinks, etc.) much like the facilities in Prince George's and Montgomery County have done as designed and run by MNCPP. Currently, most county swim teams (scholastic and private) must travel a significant distance to compete instead of having other teams from around Maryland and Northern Virginia come to Anne Arundel County (which is both centrally located and desirous of the associated economic impact that such competitions could generate. St. Mary's College and the University of Maryland, as well as several D.C area and northern Virginia facilities, benefit from the lack of such facilities at the expense of Central Maryland Counties such as Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, and Carroll counties that have much more available space for such regional facilities and are much better situated in terms of transportation, access to major road, rail, and air facilities, and hotel and restaurant facilities - all of which would return money to the county(-ies) that make the necessary up-front investments. 2) For outdoor sports, the school facilities seem underutilized by residents and do not seem to be included in many of the facility counts and land counts in the study. The county has invested huge amounts of money in fields, lighting, and auxiliary indoor spaces that could easily add to available spaces for athletic councils and county programs. If made more available to general use outside of academic and athletic schedules, these great new facilities could reduce the impact of programs on the more available, but also spatially limited and older, elementary and middle schools that host the bulk of county indoor programs. Especially with the forthcoming school schedule changes in the next year, the rebalancing and addition of lights and better quality fields at elementary and middle schools might be a more cost-effective solution than the purchase of new outdoor facilities and parks, especially when considered in terms of local access (within .5 miles for most districts and 5 miles for District 7 as parameters outlined in the report). 3) I know that this is a more controversial take, but it seems that the amount of green space, trail space, and park spaces more than adequate for the coming years. Having visited most of the county parks and been on many of the trails over the last few years, they are far from overcapacity at most times (summer weekends possibly being the exceptions). They are lovely spaces and well worth preserving and managing, but there is not a dearth of such spaces both locally and regionally. Many could use some additional parking, as they seem to be specifically designed for fewer residents than the space and amenities would support, but the amount of land itself, and especially in terms of acquisition cost and lack of a return on the investments made for the land and space (waterfront property is really expensive, and all land is expensive at this particular time, although that tends to fluctuate) seem to indicate that larger, more purpose-driven facilities might be more in line with the county's needs. Demographics definitely play a role, but if we are looking at a growing youth and school-age population, we will need facilities that are able to serve citizens of all ages and throughout the course of their lives. 4) The county is blessed with resources that could balance out the lack of indoor facilities that currently exist, especially in west and south county areas. Any of these facilities come with the need to consider infrastructure and access. If the county was to build a major aquatic/athletic facility it would serve large swaths of the county that currently rely on private clubs or travel either significant distance within the county or across borders to other facilities in PG and Calvert Counties. Anne Arundel County should be able to support three or four large regional aquatic/athletic centers for its citizens and their families and having the space specifically mutable for future needs (perhaps we need a convention or events center in the future as the citizenry ages, or some other demographic change occurs) would be a way to insure against obsolescence. There are creative and cost-effective solutions available from around the world, and certainly, no reason why the county cannot better meet the needs of the people that live here and make it such a great community. Thanks for your consideration, and I look forward to seeing how your group is able to manage everyone's needs and desires!</p>
2/10/2022	email	<p>We have reviewed the Anne Arundel County Draft 2022 Land Preservation, Parks &amp; Recreation Plan and offer the following comments. The plan is quite comprehensive and easy to read. It has the necessary detail to provide a resident of AACO the information to learn more about future development of recreational activities, specifically those focused on enhancing water access. Our comments center on the fact that AACO and the City of Annapolis have invested \$1.8M for the acquisition of a marina that is being converted into the premier adaptive boating center in the country. Yet, there is not one mention of the adaptive boating center in the county or city's plans for recreational water access improvement and/or funding. This project is under the leadership and guidance of Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating (CRAB). CRAB has been providing access to boating for people with disabilities, recovering warriors, and children from underserved communities for over 30 years from Sandy Point State Park. The location of the CRAB Annapolis Adaptive Boating Center is 7040 Bembe Beach Road. When completed, the marina will be the finest for accessibility for the disabled to board any type of sail or power boat. In addition, the ABC learning center will provide expert instruction for the disabled and other guests, including physical therapy. The total cost of the facility will be approximately \$5M. If you would like additional information about the CRAB ABC, please feel free to contact me. We worked very closely with Rick Anthony, former Director of Parks &amp; Recreation for AACO, as well as County Executive Stuart Pittman and Chris Trumbauer on this project. We look forward to seeing the plan revised to include this incredible asset to the county that will open in spring 2023. Thank you.</p>
2/10/2022	email	<p>To Whom it May Concern, Anne Arundel County has beautiful parks. Adding another to Millersville would be wonderful for the community and surrounding area. You must work with the community to create a park that fits into the landscape and preserves the environment. Large athletic fields do not fit the bill. Please do not move forward with that plan.</p>
2/13/2022	email	<p>As the voice of the community of Arden on the Severn located at the end of Sunrise Beach Road off the historic General's Highway, we are asking you to replace the references to the Millersville Park in the LPPRP with text that indicates that DRP will work with local communities to create a less invasive park use that is more appropriate for its location based on thorough traffic and environmental studies. We are asking that the proposed park be designed to fit in the rural residential area located across from the Millersville Elementary School on land that drains to the ecologically valuable Jabez Branch. We would also ask that consideration be given to a park that does not worsen traffic and cause additional unsafe conditions. We ask that the 4-6 fields plan be removed from the LPPRP and replaced with a use that is more fitting for this specific rural location. We are not interested in accommodating traveling multi-use sport teams and other outside interest groups, but would rather focus on accommodating the needs and desires of the local community. The real potential in the increase in traffic and roadside litter not only on Millersville Road, but Rt. 3, Veterans Highway, and Generals Highway (and especially at the intersection of Millersville Road and Generals Highway at Baldwin Church) is unacceptable. That specific intersection can already be tricky as it currently exists. In Arden on the Severn, we struggle with the litter along Sunrise Beach Road having Arden Park and the MD Veterans Cemetery at its end. Understanding that not all the litter comes from the use of those areas, but it certainly contributes heavily with the non-local visitors. Your consideration of our concerns is greatly appreciated. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.</p>
2/13/2022	email	<p>Hello - I have had a chance to read through the proposed 2022 AAC Budget. I notice funds for two more swim centers, a golf clubhouse, and pickleball resources. Are there funds marked for an indoor tennis center, which has been in prior budgets? I believe there had been \$7M. Now I see \$7M for an indoor recreational facility and \$400k on that same pg 86 for an indoor tennis center. How would \$400k pay for something that required \$7M prior? It also says the land originally identified is no longer available. How will this land now be used? Is the land still available to the County? Many AAC citizens have worked long and hard to arrive at a viable solution for an indoor/outdoor tennis center to address the obvious need - to serve as a hub for juniors and adults alike. I would ask the County leadership to revisit this need and how it is going to be addressed practically. Unfortunately, I can't attend either of the zoom sessions due to a community Board meeting I need to lead and a tennis league I participate in on Thursdays at Bowie Sportfit. Given the high demand for indoor court time at this one facility nearest to Anne Arundel County residents, I have to play when I am already signed up to get my exercise and connect with my tennis friends during the colder months. I really hope the leadership of our County will revisit and more specifically address the need for an indoor tennis center vs broadening already existing recreational offerings. Thank you</p>



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2/14/2022	email	Hello, As a lifelong resident of Crownsville, I oppose any new major park facility across from Millersville Elementary School. I've stayed in Crownsville because I enjoy the passive recreation of WOODs and streams and creeks that we are lucky enough to have. We don't want major commercial or even gigantic sporting complexes here. You could see this sentiment in the reaction to the proposal to redevelop the hospital grounds into a major lacrosse complex with hotel. What is being proposed across from Millersville Elementary MIGHT be OK in the hospital ground location provided it did not grow in scale and left plenty of green space. We don't want more impervious surface in this area (Crownsville). I also oppose the location as I have three children that attend Millersville Elementary and I do not want something congesting this area. It would be a hazard. Thank you for your time,
2/14/2022	email	I'm not in favor of how the county intends to construct "athletic fields" off of Millersville Road. Frankly I'm so very disappointed that anything is being constructed but what is being proposed is unacceptable. Traffic, traffic, traffic is a paramount problem and raises issues about Millersville Road. Road noise and light pollution add to our decreasing quality of life. I'm sure this sounds dramatic to you but for us these affect us daily. With all the issues that have been laid out to you before, it's discouraging that you don't listen. Please hear us and work with us to remedy all our concerns.
2/14/2022	email	<p>I am submitting comments on the draft 2022 LPPRP. I write mainly to oppose the current plan for Millersville Park and to suggest steps to develop a better plan. But, first, I have a more general comment on DRP's public engagement process. DRP needs to expand public engagement to achieve a more complete and balanced process. The draft LPPRP reveals that a huge effort goes into assessing user needs. The needs assessment process works especially well for well-organized groups, like sports associations. The process is less effective in gauging needs and concerns of independent groups and individuals. Engagement must also reach beyond park needs to address the negative effects of park development and use. DPRs stakeholder engagement with affected communities is weak. This is a longstanding problem, not new with the current County and DPR administrations. DPR should routinely engage affected communities throughout the process of park design. DRP must better address the concerns and needs of these key stakeholders. Engagement should follow procedures like those recommended by the Society of Outdoor Professionals The current plan for Millersville Park (4-6 lighted, multiuse athletic fields with associated parking, concession stand, irrigation system, and bathrooms; 2022 Draft LPPRP, page 82) threatens to overload roads and cause environmental damage. This plan will have even greater negative impacts than the tennis center plan that was rejected by the County Council in October. Some negative effects (like lights, noise, and litter) will mainly impact close neighbors. Traffic impacts will go way beyond the park. 4-6 fields need 320-480 parking spaces, drawing hundreds of cars per hour during peak times. Vehicles will reach the park on Millersville Road, a narrow country road connected to busy Generals Highway and to failing Route 3 through a failing intersection. Traffic will spill onto other local roads and create safety issues on those roads and at South Shore trail crossings. Last but not least, Millersville Elementary School is right across the street. DRP itself has stated these traffic concerns. In 2017, DRP wrote to explain choosing tennis instead of multipurpose fields. They had rejected fields because of "the size of the park, the close proximity of neighbors, and existing traffic patterns". DRP wrote that the fields would generate hundreds of cars that would interfere with Millersville Road, especially during school dismissal and evening rush hour. The County has said they could modify Millersville Road to mitigate added traffic. Here's a better idea. Instead of expensive fixes that alter the character of a historic country road, design a park that draws less traffic. Building 4-6 athletic fields in Millersville Park also brings environmental risks. The large parking lot, access roads, and buildings are impervious and will generate stormwater. According to MD-DNR, sports fields are heavily compacted, so they also generate runoff, especially if they are irrigated. All that runoff could impact water quality and aquatic life in the Severn River and up to three of its tributaries near the park (Jabez Branch, Sewel Spring, and Indian Creek). One stream, Jabez branch, is targeted in Plan2040 for special protection of its unique environmental features. To do that, stormwater management will need to go beyond minimum requirements. Instead, let's choose a mix of park uses with less environmental risk and less need for expensive stormwater management. These traffic and environmental concerns are the same ones Mr. Pittman expressed last year in a letter to Millersville residents: "too much impervious surface on virgin land, too much traffic already at Route 3 and 175, and not enough capacity on Millersville Rd" DRP should develop a new different plan through a well-informed stakeholder engagement process. To meet the Pittman Administration's commitments to public input, transparency, and accountability and the similar ideals embodied in DRP's own mission statement, please do the following: Study the site and surroundings to quantify safe and acceptable levels of added traffic, noise, and environmental change before selecting park uses. Share the study results with the public as they become available. Communities near the park are eager to work with the County and DRP to craft a park plan that works for the County and for local communities. Engage local communities now and often throughout the planning of Millersville Park. Listen to and seriously consider their desires and concerns for the park and incorporate that information into the plan from the beginning. Design a multiuse park that provides active recreation by meeting a variety of recreational needs while not exceeding site limitations and infrastructure capacity. Make the park a valued place for users of different ages and interests, not just a collection of athletic fields. Don't overload the park site and road network. A large parking lot and night lighting are red flags for overuse. Replace the Millersville Park plan currently in the 2022 Draft LPPRP to reflect the above vision and stakeholder process.</p> <p>· Shifting away from the tennis center has offered the opportunity to reset and correct past miscommunications and missteps that occurred with the tennis center. We must seize that opportunity!</p>
2/14/2022	email	I believe we should rethink the current plan for the park on Millersville Road. The plan for 4-6 ballfields and parking for up to 480 vehicles is not a good fit for this neighborhood. This undeveloped rural area should not be disturbed with such intrusive development in an environmentally sensitive region. This area is dependent on well and septic. The park site drains into the Jabez Branch, a natural trout stream, which has already been impacted by construction in the area. In addition, this region is home to many types of wildlife which will be forced out of the area, with very little undisturbed property surrounding the proposed park. Traffic is another important aspect to consider. Millersville Road is a narrow, two-lane winding road which cannot carry any more traffic without impacting safety. With Millersville Elementary School located across the street from the proposed park, and no sidewalks on this road for students, the potential for a pedestrian or vehicle accident is a distinct possibility. In addition, the intersection of Millersville Road and Route 3 is already a nightmare. More traffic at this intersection would make it much worse. I am suggesting that the park be designed with these considerations in mind. The amenities should fit within the site and infrastructure limitations. It should not be just a collection of ballfields. Instead, the park should reflect the needs of citizens of different ages and interests. Paths for walking, a playground for children and native gardens should all be considered. Please take into account the concerns of the citizens in this area when developing a plan for this park.
2/14/2022	email	As a member of the Board of Directors of the Indian Landing Community Association, I was a participant in the February 10, 2022, Zoom meeting call regarding discussions of Millersville Park. Please know that local residents do not want a large athletic complex in a rural residential community. Replace any references to an athletic complex in future documentation. The wording is misleading. Replace it with a statement that says: "The DRP will work with local communities to create a non-invasive park that is appropriate for the Millersville Road property" This land drains into a State and County ecologically valuable stream which is Jabez Branch. It is also across the road from Millersville Elementary School. We want a Millersville Park that does not make road traffic more congested and dangerous. It is important to remove any reference to 4-6 athletic fields from the LPPRP because it is the countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years. We have worked for five years to determine a suitable solution that serves all the residents, both young and old, that does not destroy the quality of life. We are looking forward to working with you in a collaborative effort.
2/14/2022	email	Good day. We want to go on record as opposing the current proposed plan for the construction of a 4 to 6 Haier Athletic Field Complex with irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking at Millersville Park. We do not want an Athletic Complex in this location. We are residents of the community and believe the proposed athletic complex will have significant negative impacts on community traffic, the environment, stormwater, noise, nighttime light pollution, trash along our roads, Millersville Elementary School. In addition, we are concerned about the clearing of forests, destroying habitat for abundant wildlife, pollutant runoff and potential for damage to residential well water and septic- the overall rural character of our community. We do ask that you remove the reference to 4-6 athletic fields with lights, irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking from the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). We understand this plan acts as a countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years. We ask that the text be replaced with wording that indicates that you will work with the communities to explore the potential to create a less invasive park that is more appropriate for its location in a rural residential area across from Millersville Elementary School, that takes into consideration it would be draining to a State and County ecological valuable stream – Jabez Branch.

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2/14/2022	email	Hello, I represented both the Indian Landing community association as the President and the generals highway council of civic associations (GHCCA) as a Director, at the 10 Feb Zoom meeting with DRP and hosted by the County. A large destination athletic complex in a rural residential community is counter to the current needs for outdoor recreation for all, and the County's dire need for more engaging 'green' spaces. Initially DRP rejected athletic fields as too much pressure on local roads, traffic, the Elementary School and on the property, as the argument to support the Tennis Center. All these factors are now more relevant with explosive Rt3 commercialization. There are now other appropriate locales for ball fields. Contradictory position? The Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) was backed by an SRA Advocacy Letter to the County for both the Jabez 3 and Indian Creek Branches resident on-site. Both previous major developments DRP proposed (Tennis Center destination and Coppermine Sports Complex) would have degraded the Creeks, the upcoming County Jabez3 Restoration, the Sewell Spring County ecological site and the Severn River, as well as the local communities on well and septic. We respectfully request that all references to an athletic complex be deleted in the next LPPRP plan. The wording is misleading, Replace it with a statement that says: "The DRP will work with all surrounding communities to create a non-invasive park that is appropriate for the Millersville Road property." This effort must engage our BWPR, runoff issues, use of septic and well water, road capacity and hazards to our Elementary School; and address the needs of the significant numbers of long-term residents, Seniors and Veterans. The Citizens have diligently researched the SWM issues and the Regional development and traffic pressures on our rural roads; collaborated with Rt3, GH and Veteran's Hwy communities; and, worked for five years with DRP to determine a suitable solution that serves all of our residents, and does not destroy the Corridor quality of life. We are now looking forward to a committed, open working relationship with DRP and the County, in a productive and collaborative effort that serves all constituents.
2/14/2022	email	What happened to tennis? You took away our funding and our site. How is that fair?? I think there are way more tennis players than swimmers yet you are building 34 million dollar swim centers not one but two!!! The tennis community feels that the county has not met their promises to us. We were promised a tennis center and now we are not even in the budget,? We urge you to consider the tennis community. We do feel totally abandoned.
2/14/2022	email	It is disgusting that this project that has fought for funding and demonstrated a need for tennis facilities has been dropped. If you can't get respondents to your RFP, then you need to expand the search for contractors, not drop the project. It is not fair, not right and you should try harder for the tennis players of Anne Arundel county to support and get this project moving not dropped!
2/14/2022	email	why 2 additional swim centers? Why a golf club house (no benefit to youth or the underserved community WHAT SO EVER) ? The tennis community has been united regarding this effort for over 8 years now. Every other county in MD has at least one substantial tennis facility EXCEPT AACo.
2/14/2022	email	To whom it may concern: I was made aware today of the total elimination of the proposed Millersville Tennis Center in the county's future recreation development and construction plans. The county invested at least 8 years of studies and approvals accompanied by 6 years of capital budget approvals. The flawed acceptance of a private company that did not align with the goals of the proposed project to partner with and direct the business of the center should not negate the need and the work done for this project. The responsibility for the poor choice lies with the staff of the Anne Arundel County Department of Recreation and Parks. Their presentation to the Anne Arundel County Council was blatantly incompetent. The incompetence of the department should not determine the outcome for a project that had earned the approval of said department with 8 years of project approvals and 6 years of budget approvals. The need for this facility had been identified many years ago and will not decrease as statistics show national tennis participation has grown 22% over the past year. Anne Arundel County reflects that growth as well. As to the pitiful plan of \$400,000 for a future new study and site search with \$7 million allocated for funding is laughable and self-defeating. The study and site search has already been done and duplicating it will be a waste of taxpayer money. The funding allocation may be \$7 million but that is quoting today's dollars. That amount will no longer fund this project as future dollars will be at the mercy of inflation. I am also aware that the County Executive has the ability to restore this project to the budget. Abandoning the project in favor of acquiring more sports fields does nothing for the diverse interests of the people of Anne Arundel County. The need for a tennis facility was originally identified in 2013 in the LPPRP and again in 2017. The selection of a private sector partner who better aligns with the goals set out in the original plan can be accomplished. I will reach out to him in the hope that he will advise, modify, approve and restore the plan that has been on the books for 9 years. Thank you for your attention to my letter.
2/14/2022	email	Please priortize tennis on Anne Arundel County as it is sorely needed
2/14/2022	email	please prioritize and complete the tennis center as promised.
2/14/2022	email	As an 65 year old, USTA Anne Arundel County resident Ffor the ladt 15 years I've been waiting to have an indoor facility for myself and my grandchildren of 4. We have raised funds for over 5 years. All other counties have these facilities. PLEASE, PLEASE find a location for a much needed facility. Presently I drive to PG, Columbia and Baltimore for my indoor tennis. How ridiculous is that?
2/14/2022	email	Tennis is a life time sport. It is inexpensive to play, so everyone can enjoy it. Why won't Ann Arundel County make this a priority? I am 75 years old and it is something that I can still enjoy while getting exercise. Please don't eliminate the plan for the tennis facility.
2/14/2022	email	Please prioritize the LPPRP to include a tennis center. Anne Arundel County should support a tennis center as the surrounding counties do. The tennis community is growing faster than the pickleball community. Our high school students need indoor courts to practice on. I have lived in the Edgewater community for 35 years; now as a senior citizen, I need to travel to PG county to play tennis in the winter. Please restore the tennis center to the budget.
2/14/2022	email	Please complete the Millersville tennis center.
2/14/2022	email	I am deeply concerned about the current plan for the new Millersville Park on Millersville Road. This road is located in a very rural, environmentally sensitive area. The road itself is quite narrow and does not allow for increased traffic, particularly since Millersville Elementary School is directly across the street from the proposed park. This area is home to many types of wildlife which will be pushed out if the park is highly developed. Noise and light pollution will greatly impact our wildlife. The current plan of 4-6 ballfields and parking for approximately 400 vehicles is totally inappropriate for this community! The plan involves too much impervious surface on virgin land. Instead, this park needs to provide a more passive environment with walking paths, a playground and gardens. I am requesting that the needs of our community to retain natural and undeveloped land be considered when designing this new park.
2/14/2022	email	I am writing to request that 4-6 fields with irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking not be built in this Millersville rural area. Instead I request that you work with the community to design a Park that provides amenities that fit within the site infrastructure limitations. Instead of developing just ball fields make it valuable to a more diverse age and interest groups. The increase in traffic would cause congestion and reduce safety on local roads such as Millersville Road, Cecil Road, Indian Landing Road and Waterbury Road as well as Generals Highway, Rt. 175 and route 3. These complex will also affect Millersville Elementary and the South Shore Trail. DRP requires 80 parking spaces per ball field with means 320-480 new parking spaces, which means around 200 vehicles to arrive for one time slot and another 200 to arrive for the next time slot. This endeavor adds additions issues on the weekend when Jehovah Witness Assembly Hall and the Jehovah Witness services end on Saturday. The road system can not support this traffic and the Park development must not create a need to reengineer Millersville Road. There are also environmental issues such as stormwater runoff and associated pollutants for the 320-480 cars that could damage streams in the area. These stream's unique ecological value should not be overlooked. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and State Highway Administration is undertaking a massive stream restoration project on Jabez 3Branch to restore the stream and the runoff could adversely affect this and other streams. This ballfield plan contradicts County statements. DRP's own analysis rejected 3+ ball fields for the site because of the size of the park and the close proximity to neighbors and existing traffic patterns. The County Executive expressed concerns about the impervious surface on virgin land and the traffic already on Route 3 and 175 and the lack of capacity on Millersville Road in his May 27,2021 letter to Millersville residents. Consideration also needs to be given to the 2040 Plan for Green Space, The County has plans to acquire 50 acres for a new athletic complex in western County, 30 acres for a community park in Glen Burnie, 30 acres adjacent to Jessup Park, 20 acres for the Linthicum BWI Athletic Fields and 10 acres in Deale and MD City. These plans would service a denser population where there is a higher need. The DRP engages park user groups and sports organizations but has not engaged the communities that are most affected and who suffer the consequences when all the Environmental and traffic issues are not given high concern. I would ask that consideration be given to not building fields on natural and undeveloped land in low density and rural communities but instead build them closer to the more densely populated portions of the County.

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2/15/2022	email	To Whom it May Concern: We want to express our strong preference for an alternative to the sports complex (fields) being suggested. Along with the points others will make about the environmental impacts (let me add light pollution to that), the traffic, etc., we have already experienced the results of a similar project in our previous home. Our town in the Hudson Valley caved to pressure from the "my team should never have to wait for a field" contingent, and ruined a beautiful piece of land that was undeveloped and served as a natural park for all. Our daughter, now a NASA solar physicist, learned to stargaze there. Children watched turtle families grow, followed animal tracks, and ran without restriction (where does any child have that option anymore?) Families brought dogs to romp, flew model airplanes, etc. This was completely destroyed to take the easy route of grading the land, covering it in asphalt, and then requiring high illumination at night. A town that has a false "green" reputation didn't even landscape for environmental impacts. They paved Paradise and put up a parking lot, which they named "The Field of Dreams." We moved here during the pandemic to help our daughter and husband raise their family. Moving to Anne Arundel has felt like a beautiful step back in time, to a time when everything wasn't paved over, stadium-lit, and dedicated to yet another organized activity. Please don't eliminate open space for children to run, explore, and gaze upwards. You won't know what you are missing until it is gone, and it will be too late for those children.
2/15/2022	email	Please prioritize and complete the tennis center in Millersville as planned. Anne Arundel County is lacking tennis facilities in a huge way for the large number of tennis players in AA Co. Neighboring counties have more tennis facilities, it is a huge hole in this county and totally inadequate.
2/15/2022	email	I am writing to voice my reasons against putting a large sports development on the undeveloped park land across from the Millersville elementary school. 1. Traffic: I was an expert on environmental impact statements in New York, and I can tell you with absolute certainty that **traffic studies consistently underestimate the impacts of development**. Putting 300-400 additional parking spots and their attendant traffic into an area that is already unsafe for elementary school students and their families is grossly irresponsible. There are plenty of other, better locations for sports facilities, if they're even needed, which I don't believe they are. 2. Lighting: As an astrophysicist, please listen when I say that **sports field and parking lighting is incredibly detrimental**. They confuse local wildlife, change circadian rhythms, and remove some of our last low-development tracts where people can stargaze. This area is already one of the worst light-polluted regions of the country; don't contribute to it. Were you outraged when you saw headlines about Elon Musk's Starlink satellites causing problems with research? Don't be ground-based Musks. 3. Stormwater: The entire metro DC region is boggy; we don't need anything else paved. The planned parking spaces, plus however many of the sports areas would have soil disturbed/covered, will make runoff more of a problem. 4. General use: Sports fields are only desired by a small (but very vocal) collection of athletic stage parents. **The entire community, spanning all ages, races, genders, and other demographics, would get more and healthier use out of simple park land with perhaps a few low-impact facilities** (e.g., a fenced dog park, or a couple of trails). These kinds of uses don't require expensive equipment or fees, and thus are more available to all. They also allow for the land to remain almost entirely unpaved, and the typical dawn-to-dusk rules would eliminate the need for flood lighting. Stop bowing to the vocal minority. **A simple park plan is easier, more equitable, cheaper, and better for everyone.** How often does that happen? Let's take advantage of it.
2/15/2022	email	I feel it is shameful that Anne Arundel County has cancelled the Tennis Center Project which many people have worked hard to plan and raise funds. It needs to be PRIORITIZED. It is possible to reinstating the center as a priority. AA County has no publicly available indoor tennis center, unlike neighboring counties. The Need Remains In 2020 the number of tennis players grew nationally by 22% - faster than pickleball. Tennis has over 21 million players (pickleball, 4.2 million). While we applaud Rec and Parks for supporting new and better facilities for sports in Anne Arundel County from swim centers to field sports to pickleball, we object to the 2022 LPPRP plan that sends tennis to the end of the line. Our neighboring counties have 18 public indoor tennis centers providing programs for youth, adults, seniors. Anne Arundel County has none. We sincerely need this center. Please continue the planning for the county indoor tennis center at the Millersville site.
2/15/2022	email	I'm writing to OPPOSE the plan to place multiple athletic fields and the attendant hundreds of parking spaces necessary to accommodate the number of people flooding this small rural roadway. As many will note, Millersville Rd. is not built to accommodate the traffic flow that will be created by the park: - The intersection at Rt. 3 N and S is already a mess and sees multiple collisions monthly. - Cecil Ave. and the residents who live along it have seen an influx of high speed traffic of commuters trying to circumnavigate the daily backups on Rt. 3 N. - Waterbury Rd./Millersville Rd is a 90 degree curve with cars blowing thru the guardrail and ending up in the front yard of the home there. This happens several times a year. - Veterans Hwy, Generals Hwy, Waterbury and M'ville Rd. will all see an increase by orders of magnitude as hundreds, if not thousands of people will descend on the park all weekend, every weekend throughout the spring, summer and fall. Overflow parking will spill out onto the shoulder of the roadway further up M'ville Rd. and into neighborhoods. - Where is the water coming from to supply irrigation for the fields? All the homes in this area are on private wells. Is the plan to simply stress the water table to achieve your short term goals with no regard for how it impacts the people who live here? The plan for the Millersville Park couldn't be more inappropriate for this area. This is a rural residential area completely lacking in the space and resources necessary to accommodate the expansive and highly impactful imposition this sports complex would be.
2/15/2022	email	I request that the LPPRP remove all references to a large athletic complex located at Millersville Park in this countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years. Reference should be a 'mixed activity 'community park'. In 2017, DRP rejected the placement of athletic fields at Millersville Park based on 'the size of the park, close proximity of neighbors and existing traffic patterns'. These factors have not changed, the traffic patterns have actually worsened with the continued development of Rt 3 and the State designated failed intersection at Rt 3 and Rt 175/Millersville Road. 4-6 athletic fields will have monumental impacts to the ecological and rural environment of the neighborhood, storm water management as well as light and noise pollution. Millersville Park should be identified as an AACo community park, as originally designated. DRP definition of 'community park' includes facilities such as basketball courts, picnic pavilions, playgrounds, exercise paths and athletic fields based on recreational need priorities. The surrounding communities welcome a 'community park with a mix of recreational amenities supporting all ages. For five years, the surrounding communities have requested a 'community park' to be developed at Millersville Park. I have served on AACo councils, we have employed independent experts, provided facts and testimonies to AACo government. I request that all references to a large athletic complex located at Millersville Park be removed from this countywide master plan for land preservation, recreational programming, park acquisition, and facility development for the next five years and that DRP respect the CE decision to include the community in the Millersville Park design development.
2/15/2022	email	Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised.
2/15/2022	email	I am a resident at ____ Millersville Rd, Millersville MD and have the following concerns and opposition to building the sports complex in our rural community: Traffic Increase - Millersville Rd is already an alternate route from using 97 and 3. The intersection of Millersville Rd and Cecil Rd is dangerous. Adding additional traffic will only make things worse. Noise - There will be increased noise in the area as a result of building such a large sports complex just down the way from our own home. Light pollution - The light pollution will also take away from why we purchased here in the first place. Safety - There will be more traffic, bringing folks from other areas into our nice quiet community. Commercial Encroachment - We are seeing a pattern of commercial properties encroach upon us and it is disturbing. The upcoming Eating Disorder Clinic on Cecil Road, the commercial property to the right of us, the Ranger Station across the street (is deteriorating before our very eyes)
2/15/2022	email	I am writing to express my opinion on the planned athletic complex at Millersville Park. As a longtime resident of the area, this project as currently planned is not suitable for the rural and low density neighborhood of Millersville Road. Please consider designing a park that provides a MIX OF AMENITIES THAT FITS WITHIN SITE AND INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITATIONS. Amenities could include pickleball, tennis, multipurpose field, walking/nature trail, dog park, natural area (Jabez Branch/Severn River/Bay educational opportunity) and playground. This park should be a true multipurpose COMMUNITY park, not only athletic fields. 4 to 6 fields (and the associated parking) are too many at this location. My children all played field sports (lacrosse and soccer) so I am aware of the need for fields, however, this isn't the place to jam extra fields. We are also tennis players who did not agree with the mega tennis complex at this site. The nearest major intersection (175 and Rte 3) is already deemed FAILING by the SHA and its dangerous accident rate is well documented and well known by anyone paying attention. Increasing traffic to an already over-congested major intersection and then feeding that traffic onto a two-lane country road is a recipe for disaster and the ruin of the character of the local community. The county has specific commitments in Plan 2040 and elsewhere to protect the watershed of Jabez Branch, so this project would be in direct breach of that commitment. In addition, YOU, the county, through your own analysis rejected 3+ ballfields at this site in 2017 because of "the size of the park, the close proximity of neighbors, and existing traffic patterns." The only thing that has changed in the last 5 years is that the traffic through this area has gotten considerably worse with the rampant development on Rte 3! WE are begging you to truly listen to the concerns of the neighborhood and the people who actually live and drive here every day. Thanks for your consideration of my comments and concerns.

# 2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments

2/15/2022	email	I am firmly against the DRP plans currently proposed for the development of Millersville Park. This poorly conceived plan is not appropriate for this property. 1. The plans are too large for the property. DRP's own 2017 analysis rejected 3+ ballfields for the site because of "the size of the park, the close proximity of neighbors, and existing traffic patterns." The acreage is the same today as it was in 2017. So why can it now support 4-6 athletic fields with irrigation, concession stand, comfort station and parking for 320-480 cars? It can't. This plan is bad and not appropriate. 2. It is egregious that the county does not follow the same zoning laws required by any homeowner or business entity. Why are there two sets of rules? Those for the government and those for its citizens? The scope of these plans does not meet the zoning requirements for any non-government entity. DRP must follow the same zoning rules as every other citizen and business in Anne Arundel County. 1. The project seems to be going forward in a vacuum. Prior monies have been spent by the county to improve the watershed in this area. With this DRP proposed plan, it will destroy all the progress made and add to pollution. This makes no sense fiscally or for the environment. In addition, the plan is to use turf fields with a water management program. However, this area is on septic and cannot support that volume of water usage. 1. The County is in the midst of securing other properties that would be much better suited for the scope of this project and have a population density to better support it. The local community has been asking for 4 years to be involved with this project. At every turn, DRP has excluded us or ignored us. We would like to see this property developed into something the community can use and enjoy for all ages and abilities. PLEASE do not move forward with this poorly conceived plan. Invite the local community into the planning process so we can together find the best use for the property. PLEASE include us – we have lots of great ideas!
2/15/2022	email	Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised. It's difficult to find courts during high traffic times.
2/15/2022	email	I am writing in response to the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) to be discussed at tonight's public hearing. As a lifelong [age 62] tennis player and resident of Millersville, MD, I emphatically object to the County's dismissal of the urgent public need for indoor tennis and the disregard for its own county process! After 8 years of project studies, 6 years of capital budget approvals, and the identified need for an AACO indoor tennis center in the 2013 LPPRP and 2017 LPPRP, I am appalled to learn that the County flat out abandoned the Tennis Center project at the Millersville Park site in their 2022 LPPRP! I strongly urge both County Executive Pittman and the Committee to re-prioritize and complete the tennis center project as previously planned and promised! Please consider that in 2020 the number of tennis players grew nationally by 22% - faster than pickleball. Tennis has over 21 million players (pickleball, 4.2 million). Our neighboring counties have 18 public indoor tennis centers providing programs for youth, adults, seniors. Anne Arundel County has none! While I applaud Rec and Parks for supporting new and better facilities for sports in Anne Arundel County from swim centers to field sports to pickleball, I object to the 2022 LPPRP plan that sends tennis to the end of the line. Thank you for your consideration.
2/15/2022	email	"Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised." The plan to drop the current tennis center project and start all over is wrong. It is not fair. The tennis center does not have to be dropped. It can be fixed. When there is a will there is a way. Please work hard to get the tennis center project done now.
2/15/2022	email	As a resident of the Indian Landing Community in Millersville, I am asking that the current draft of the LPPRP go through a round of edits, replacing all references to building a large athletic ball field complex at Millersville Park with text that says that the Department of Recreation & Parks (DRP) will, instead, work with the local communities of the Millersville Park area to plan and create a less invasive, "low-impact, daytime-only park," which is appropriate for its rural residential location. For so many reasons, it would be much better for the Millersville Park area to be established as a "low-impact," "daytime-only" park (instead of as an invasive ball field complex), which might include: ~ walking/jogging nature trails, ~ community gardening area, ~ children's playground, ~ fully fenced dog park. The proposed, large, "lighted" complex of ball fields, with hundreds of vehicle parking spaces, are a bad idea for many reasons, including the following: Traffic: They would increase traffic congestion tremendously, both day and night, in an already dangerous and narrow roadway area, especially on the sharp Millersville Road turn, near the Millersville Elementary School. Vehicular accidents and "near-crashes" are commonplace, there, currently, and would certainly worsen with the immense player and spectator attendance expected by the proposed "lighted," large, ball fields. Adding a great deal of traffic for big games to that area will not only cause unwanted congestion and danger to drivers, it will make Millersville Road extremely more dangerous for pedestrians (incl., for children). Light Pollution: Additionally, "lighted" nighttime ball fields will detract greatly from the present "country neighborhood" feel and property values of the combined "Millersville Road" and "Historic Indian Landing & Baldwin Church" neighborhoods. Location: Large ball fields, whether lighted for nighttime use or not, ought to be built somewhere else in our county that is already a "business area" with existing nighttime lighting, not in a "country-type" residential area. It would also make sense to have ballfields closer to where more people live, in areas that are more densely populated. Noise: More traffic equals more vehicular noise. High player and spectator attendance equals more human noise. Lighted, nighttime events encourage people to "hang out" after events at night. "Hanging out" equals more nuisance nighttime noise. Furthermore, the current traffic noise of "drag racing" and speeding vehicles in the proposed facility's general location is already horrendous, not to mention awfully dangerous. The existing noise pollution from that general area can already even be heard clearly from Indian Landing neighborhood homes!
2/15/2022	email	Really! MULTIPLE swimming centers; MULTIPLE sports' fields; a "new" clubhouse at Eisenhower??!! And we can't have a public tennis facility? Make good on your commitments.
2/15/2022	email	I joined the video call this evening to hear the summary of the LPPRP and the follow-up 2-minute statements from county citizens. I wanted to add my thanks for the creation of the draft plan as I know how difficult assembling such a document can be. I am both an active tennis and pickleball player on county facilities. I also have a son who currently plays high school tennis. Our facilities have improved with the renovation of the Truxton courts. However, there is a strong need for indoor tennis facilities (with adjacent outdoor courts) and the narrow defeat of the contract (not the idea) left little hope for our large and vibrant tennis community. I am writing to express my strong support to keep the tennis center project at the forefront of the plan, not dropped from consideration altogether. How can an 11th-hour failure of a management contract cause the dismissal of tennis altogether? The fact that tennis was so close indicates that it should be at the TOP of athletic facility considerations, not deleted from the plan.
2/16/2022	email	I am deeply concerned and upset at the County's actions to drop the plans and construction funding for the planned tennis center in Millersville. The need is very strong!
2/16/2022	email	Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised. Our county has been losing public (e.g., at the Community College) and private courts for years without adding more. Further, the existing tennis courts are now having to be shared with pickleball players. County residents need and deserve a dedicated tennis center (like the residents of Montgomery, Howard and Prince George's Counties already enjoy). The sport is one of the few that people can enjoy as they age. Thank you for considering this message.
2/16/2022	email	Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised. I am a physical therapist in the community as well as a USTA member and competitive county tennis player. I can attest to the number of avid tennis players in AA county. The main frustration I hear is the lack of tennis facilities in our county while our neighboring counties have dedicated facilities for indoor and outdoor tennis. Tennis is a lifelong sport that provides both physical and mental skills. Tennis builds arm and leg strength, improves coordination, agility and balance. Tennis fosters social interaction, mental and psychological benefits. It is a sport that can be played by all ages. I, for one, have played tennis since I was five years old. I am now 53 and plan to play for another 25+ years. It is such a valuable sport that the US Coast Guard Academy includes it in its curriculum for it's cadets attending USCGA. From a financial perspective, this facility can host fund raising events and tournaments throughout the year. It can draw professional players from all over the world and be host to tournaments attended by many spectators. We do not need more youth fields. We need a place in AA county for ALL ages— youth, adults and families to be part of community togetherness around a lifetime sport, fostering relationships, and promoting physical and mental wellness. Thank you for prioritizing the completion of this project in a timely manner. So many county residents are looking forward to playing tennis at this new, state of the art facility dedicated to the lifetime sport of tennis.
2/17/2022	email	I am writing to urge the county to reconsider its abandonment of the Millersville Tennis Center. Years of planning and hard work by the tennis community have been directed toward this goal. There is no public indoor facility to play tennis in Anne Arundel, while our neighboring counties have several. The Naval Brigade in Annapolis allows public members to reserve court time, however, it is expensive and time is available only when it is not in use by the navy. (For example, our reservation for courts was cancelled last Friday because the navy had scheduled at the last minute an active shooter drill. The time will be made up but not until April.) So much work had been completed at the Millersville site, and county funds already had been allotted. I am at a loss to understand the reasoning behind the decision to stop construction of the tennis center and use the property for additional athletic fields. I understand there are for more demands than the County can fulfill with limited resources. It is unfair, however, to add two more indoor swimming facilities, a new clubhouse at Eisenhower Golf Course and other projects when the contemplated Millersville Tennis Center has been taken away. Reconsideration of that decision will be greatly appreciated by hundreds of tennis players.



# 2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments

2/17/2022	email	Hope this is not too late, as a new resident, I just learned about your project and input request. I live in the Annapolis Roads neighborhood and like to bike ride. The whole "Annapolis Neck" area has lots of beautiful and rider-safe residential neighborhoods with lots of bike riders (Annapolis Roads, Edgewood(multiple), Bay Ridge, Thomas Point, Fishing Creek, Hillsmere/Quiet Waters, Arundel on the Bay, etc.) However, we have to take our life into our own hands to ride between neighborhoods on the 0.5 mile of broken down sidewalks along the highly trafficked Bay Ridge Road (between Hillsmere Road and Arundel on the Bay Road). It would be great if we could have some sort of official bike lane or off road bike path bypass connecting these neighborhoods. Essentially, connecting Peninsula Park to Quiet Waters Park. I'll admit I did not read the whole 248 page draft report, but I did search it for bicycle references and found none related to the Annapolis Neck area I am referring to. Thanks for considering my input! Happy to clarify by phone or email, if desired.
2/20/2022	email	As an Anne Arundel County resident, a Master Gardener, and a grandmother who attends her grandkids sports activities, I was interested to read the plan. I read the executive summary only, and was impressed with the comprehensiveness of what I read. I think AACO does a good job of maintaining its park and recreational spaces, and was very happy to see the planned construction of community recreational facilities for Glen Burnie. They do need more. I am aware of the efforts in AACO to preserve our agricultural land and acquire more. I applaud those efforts. I do have one minor suggestion for improvement: can there either be more trashcans or can they be collected more often? It would be helpful. I appreciate the opportunity to comment.
2/20/2022	email	To Whom it may concern, I have read the 2022 LPPRP document and am writing to address the references to tennis and pickleball. I want to correct some perceptions, give my observations, and offer solutions. The report notes notes that there was a "staggering" 21% growth of pickleball between 2019 and 2020*. Yet, there is no mention that *tennis grew by 22% in 2020*. ( <a href="https://www.usta.com/en/home/stay-current/national/u-s--tennis-participation-surges-in-2020--pac-report-finds.html">https://www.usta.com/en/home/stay-current/national/u-s--tennis-participation-surges-in-2020--pac-report-finds.html</a> ) The report also says that *4.2 million play pickleball* at least once a year. Yet, according to a report (*) from the Physical Activity Council, more than *21 million people played tennis* last year! The report further acknowledges that there is tension between pickleball and tennis players, citing that tennis players complain of noise, line problems and incompatibility. This is REAL!!!! Further, "Pickleball players find similar distractions posed by tennis". PLEASE pay attention to this observation!!! *The 2 sports are NOT compatible. **Blended lines are NOT the solution. Sharing the net or the court is NOT the solution. * There has been damage and vandalism to tennis nets and cranks - to lower the nets to pickleball height. Just ask your Maintenance division. *Each sport needs their own separate facility.* The LPPRP report has the right idea when it notes "if two parks in close proximity have tennis courts, consider *converting one site *to pickleball". *YES!!* A perfect example is Bestgate Park - please convert it to all pickleball with permanent nets. Put lights up (they don't have to be high). Other places to consider for dedicated, permanent pickleball courts are the *7 Senior Centers*. They could be used for both indoor and outdoor pickleball. The demographics of pickleball players in AA county supports this idea. Google at the 2021 Annapolis Pickleball Tournament. The vast majority of players were 50 and over. Very few players were younger. All played doubles. Many came from outside the county. Contrast this with the popular AACTA tennis tournaments. Player age ranged from 18 - 75 or older, playing both singles AND doubles! Most of the players live in AA County, too. I have been a resident of AA County for 50 years and have played competitive and social tennis the entire time. I've watched tennis groups donate equipment, provide free lessons to disadvantaged kids, offer clinics to Special Olympics athletes and volunteer for environmental causes. I too have volunteered and participated in these efforts. The cancellation of the Millersville Tennis project was both sad and unimaginable. So much time and effort, so much money was expended. And now, you want to start over? Who wants to invest another 7-8 years and partner with you after that stunning setback? It's very sad that this could not be negotiated and moved forward. I sincerely hope that you will look deeply at your future plans for both tennis and pickleball. Please support separate site(s) . Do not force us on one another!! It's not working!
2/20/2022	email	Dear Sir or Madam, Please prioritize and complete the tennis center project as promised. It seems unfathomable that 8 years of project studies and approvals, 6 years of capital budget approvals, and the need/demand identified in the 2013 LPPRP and 2017 LPPRP was left out of the newest 2022 LPPRP. The project and the approved site for the tennis center remain viable. The long-established need for public indoor tennis courts should be an active project for Anne Arundel County residents, government employees, and elected officials.
2/21/2022	email	I'm unable to attend the meeting on Thursday February 24, I'm an AA tennis player and we need an indoor tennis center. We've patiently waited for years and now is the time to act.
2/21/2022	email	My family and I have played tennis in the Annapolis area for 40 years. The county needed a tennis center during that period and will need one in the future. Build it now!
2/21/2022	email	Hello: my apologies for not being able to make the zoom meeting. However I wish to relay that myself Ellen McLaughlin, and my husband, Michael McLaughlin are absolutely in favor of having an Anne Arundel community facility. Tennis is a wonderful sport for the young and old alike. It can be played socially or competitively. Having a tennis facility in Anne Arundel County with provide endless positive returns to the community residents and their welfare. We hope that the County will proceed forward with such creation. Now is Undoubtedly the time to act. Thank you for considering.
2/21/2022	email	My name is _____ and we urgently need an indoor tennis center in Anne Arundel county!
2/21/2022	email	We need an indoor tennis center. We are a huge tennis playing county and it just wrong that we are the only metropolitan county without such a facility. It is so sad that we lost all of the efforts to provide the center in Millersville but another site needs to be identified in the Department's plan
2/21/2022	email	I am strongly in favor of an indoor tennis and pickleball center. I have been an Anne Arundel County resident since 1974 and have never written to you about any other issue. Please make this happen.
2/22/2022	email	To Whom It May Concern, I am a 40 year resident of Anne Arundel County, the last 30 in Gambrills. I have coached high school tennis and summer league tennis for 20 years. I find it distressing to have to go out of county to play tennis indoors. I currently play at SportFit in Bowie and at Watkins Park in Upper Marlboro. While I am at these facilities, I notice that most of the tennis players are from Anne Arundel County. At my regular Friday sessions at Watkins Park four of the five courts are used by Anne Arundel residents. If we are interested in improving the quality of life in the county, we need to have the facilities that will promote that goal. The tennis center previously proposed would be a self supporting facility much like Eisenhower golf course. I am very disappointed that our elected leadership has failed to see the advantages of having such a center and has been deaf to the urgings of the tennis playing public. Please prioritize the proposed tennis center so that we can have the type of facility we deserve in this county.
2/22/2022	email	To the 2022 LPPRP planners and organizers, Accessible tennis is a crucially important aspect of so many peoples' lives. I know from firsthand experience that public access to tennis can create much-needed opportunities for low-income families and children to get exercise, and so much more. Please don't dismiss the tennis center plan- it would be of great use to the people of Anne Arundel County, of all different ages, economic statuses, etc. *We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. *
2/23/2022	email	Our family plays tennis in Prince George County in Bowie Sport Fit and College Park JTCC. We don't have any indoor facility in Anne Arundel county.
2/22/2022	email	Hello, I am a lifelong tennis player and have passed this wonderful sport onto my children. My son is now playing varsity tennis at Archbishop Spalding High School and is most slated to be their number one player this spring. This high achievement comes out of a love for the sport, time spent with family on the courts and a dedication to exercise in his life as opposed to destructive addictive pastimes so many teens fall into. Tennis offers a wonderful avenue for outdoor recreation for all different levels and age groups. It is a lifelong, social sport that so many would benefit from and government agencies in counties should be providing venues for it's residence to be able to play. There was much research and money already spent in the Millersville proposed tennis center and it is shocking to me that this project could possibly not be moving forward. What a horrible disappointment it would be to take this proposed center away from the residences of Anne Arundel county. Please keep moving forward with funding and planning to have the Millersville tennis center built. The current AA county residents of all ages and their future generations would greatly benefit from this center and what a wonderful legacy to have this tennis center come to fruition. Thanks and God Bless,
2/22/2022	email	We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. Thank you,
2/22/2022	email	Hello, We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. Thanks for your consideration,

# 2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments

2/22/2022	email	We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. Tennis is a lifelong sport that families can play together. We need facilities like our surrounding counties. As the parent of a NCAA Division I player, I can attest to the fact that the county is deficient in the infrastructure to build players and a community. During COVID, which sport had the largest increase in new participants? TENNIS! It's only accessible to all of there is a place to gather and grow.
2/22/2022	email	Dear Sir/Madam: We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. It is astonishing that neighboring counties have multiple tennis facilities, but Anne Arundel County does not have any at all. It bothers me that I must spend my hard earned money at tennis facilities in other counties. It is my personal goal to help Anne Arundel to flourish not my neighboring counties. Additionally, let's help our Anne Arundel County children to find the success that Frances Tiafoe and Denis Kudla found in Prince George's County.
2/22/2022	email	*To Whom it May Concern,* *We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. *
2/23/2022		To whom it may concern: We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! There are few options for instruction or organized play for our youth and adult tennis players in Anne Arundel County. So many people are being turned away and are in search of these options because there is not enough court availability or programing for the public. The Tennis Center would help promote community health and continue to promote play that can last a lifetime. Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016.
2/23/2022		Good morning We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. We really do need somewhere to play tennis in Anne Arundel County!!
2/23/2022		I am a tennis player BUT I am not supporting the building of the Millersville Tennis Complex. The number of PLAYERS actively playing on tennis courts in Anne Arundel County are declining. Count the tennis players on the court during the daytime - evening. They are NOT there. Truxton is very indicative of the loss of tennis players. More tennis courts are not needed. WHAT IS NEEDED?... allow PICKLEBALL court lines to be painted on the tennis courts. Count the PICKLEBALL players at Truxton, Bestgate, and PAL Peninsula Park. Pickleball players far out number tennis players everyday at Anne Arundel parks. Count the tennis vs pickleball players and the ACTIVE usage of these park courts and you will easily determine the best decision for building a future for Anne Arundel County.
2/23/2022		Please reinstate the Tennis Center at Millersville Park that has been approved since 2016. We desperately need a tennis center for our county. Thank You!!!
2/23/2022		Please provide a toddlers park that is safe and fun for the small kids and families.As toddler park with soft flooring with shading in some parts and with appropriate play equipment that families would not worry if the kids might eat the chips on the ground or hit their heads to the lower side of the equipment stairs when running under it etc. There is an excellent example called "Angel Park" in Perry Hall. It includes a toddler park and kids' park next to each other, safely separated. Thank you.
2/23/2022		If we are serious about equity, we need to make sure we have public, all-weather facilities for all major youth sports, including tennis. Without this, tennis becomes something only kids with access to a private club can enjoy year-round. Our 13-year-old son fell in love with tennis two years ago. We have been able to afford to get him into private clinics in Prince George's and Howard County. It's frustrating to have to drive outside the county to access an indoor facility and inequitable for the many who families can't afford the time or \$ to do this. We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize them Millersville Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016.
2/23/2022		We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. I realize that the wheels of government move slowly. To scrap this plan after it has been in the works and approved for so long shows a lack of consideration for the residents of AA County. We need more facilities like this to get people more physically active and improve their quality of life. Tennis is not only a great activity to improve fitness but it is also an excellent activity to promote healthy social interactions among residents and neighbors. Please do not dismiss the plans for this facility!
2/23/2022		To whom it may concern: Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. I believe that many of our county residents, especially those having physical and mental challenges, would benefit greatly by having year round opportunities to practice tennis lessons. My brother has been involved in AACO Special Olympics and worked closely with Louise Gengler Thomas and her team of volunteers. My brother, Gary, enjoyed being a Special Olympics tennis player. Louise is a phenomenal instructor, coach and a role model to so many! Without a doubt, I can visualize the many teams of Special Olympians practicing tennis year round if the dream of an indoor tennis facility becomes a reality. This means so much to so many! Please reinstate and prioritize this much needed Tennis Center project in AACO. Thank you for your time and consideration.
2/23/2022		Please prioritize and complete the tennis center in Millersville as promised. As a long time tennis player and resident of Anne Arundel County(since 1978), this is an important project to serve our community.
2/23/2022		I think R&P should start by completely overhauling the entire youth sports department. It's not working and hasn't worked in years. It needs to be brought up to date with forward thinking outsiders. The easiest way to handle this is to repurpose the "sport commissioners" and move them over to another department. There's no reason why a local government should be running youth sports leagues when there are numerous organizations better suited for the job. In addition, give youth sports organizations the full ability to schedule the fields in their communities without government intervention. The way it currently works allows for favoritism where county employees are able to pack games in certain areas and leave others without activities. Allow for privately owned fields to be used for recreation purposes. That would alleviate overcrowding of fields, destruction of grass fields, and bickering between organizations all the while maintaining green space for the community.
2/23/2022		We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. Many of us donated funds a long time ago to an alliance to help raise funds for the facility. And then we showed up at meeting after meeting to raise our voices. At present the only indoor facility is at Brigade and it's not really open to the public -- the cost is expensive and for the civilian, play is subject to Navy's schedule and changing criteria. To play indoors in the Winter one must either join a club like Chartwell (expensive) or drive to another county and join a place like Bowie SportFit. There is support here in Anne Arundel County, and a need for public courts. Thank you for your consideration.
2/23/2022		I live in Odenton, near the Odenton Natural Area. This park could really use some attention. Since COVID began the area became swamped with people from the new housing areas that now circumscribe it. Mountain bikers and motorcyclists have destroyed it - they've built ramps and trails throughout such that there's hardly any room left for wildlife, and the motorbikes are constantly screaming through the trails. Why isn't there resources devoted to preserving what we already have? For instance, over the past two years I've repeatedly asked Parks and Rec to put up signs forbidding motor vehicles and the building or altering of trails. To date this hasn't been done AND no one has even taken the time to explain why preserving this postage stamp of serenity isn't worth a couple of signs. Instead they've told me to call police when I see it going on. Yet it goes on every day, and it takes me at least 15 minutes to place the call and give the information, and the perpetrators are often gone before police take the time to come out here. When I've stopped motorcyclists myself in the woods they are sometimes kids who sincerely didn't know motor vehicles are prohibited. How could they when there's no signs and a constant presence of motor vehicles in the woods? There is also quite a lot of trash and sewage overflow in this small forested area. Yet the Odenton Natural Area is very, very important to those of us who rely on it to give our children a little taste of peace. Similarly people constantly have dogs off leash in these woods; once again, there are no signs forbidding it even though it is in fact forbidden. Can't we please put up signs and dedicate a little enforcement to preserve what we have? Otherwise these natural areas can't serve the purposes for which they're created, and won't last much longer.
2/23/2022		I am excited that the 2022 plan is focusing on some significant needs in the county. It is a lot to read and get through, but there are some excellent plans in the works! My comments reflect my desire to have interconnected trails/bike paths in my part of the county. I live in Edgewater, in the Southdown Shores neighborhood off of Rt. 2 (district 7). I have lived here over 20 year, and my children are now in high school. I have regularly lamented the lost opportunities I see in my community: 1) Our schools and neighborhoods are close in proximity, but due development along the Rt. 2 corridor, some of our neighborhoods are islands. Despite being so close to school, it is too dangerous for our kids to cross Rt. 2 to reach them. Traffic drives by at 50 miles per hour, so it is scary to even walk along Rt. 2, even though there are sidewalks in places. 2) We have a park in our neighborhood that goes mostly unused - there is nothing there but a rusty batting backdrop, and the space is hidden behind homes. We have no park with swings and play equipment that we can walk to without crossing Rt. 2. We must drive to or buy our own swings and playsets. 3) In order to ride our bikes anywhere beyond our small community, we must drive. Route 2 is far too dangerous for our kids. We must drive far to get to a bike trail that is designed for little kids on bikes. I would much prefer to leave my car at home and limit greenhouse gas emissions. I hope some of these issues can be addressed over time. I would love to have an interconnected network of green spaces - where bikes, pedestrians, and joggers are welcome.

**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

2/23/2022		AACo needs a tennis facility and we request that the county follow through with the project that has been planned for many years at Millersville Park
2/23/2022		Kids need outlets yet tennis is not widely available in Annapolis area. The only major court near us in Riva is always full. Please, please, please increase access and the # of tennis facilities in our county. Programming for tennis is nearly non-existent compared to other sports. It's a pandemic friendly sport!! Please.... please.....invest in our health and kids. Thanks for your consideration.
2/23/2022		AACo needs a tennis facility and we request that the county follow through with the project that has been planned for many years at Millersville Park.
2/23/2022		I strongly support an indoor tennis facility in Anne Arundel County as previously proposed in prior county budgets and plans. Please reinstate funding and get this project back on track.
2/23/2022		AA County, We need our tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. Do this for our kids, our health, and our future.
2/23/2022		We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016.
2/23/2022		Please consider purchasing the property for sale on Sands Road along the Patuxent River, just north of Rio Vista. There are other parks along the river to help preserve the area in a natural state , and using a protective Land Preservation plan would be a great benefit here. The area could be developed only for walking trails to help sustain the wildlife area. This would be a very valuable section to preserve, as there is a lot of development south of the area with the mobile home parks. Thank you for your consideration,
2/23/2022		“Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan” ... 2022?? You missed something: Build a Tennis Center 2018 It seems absurd to flush out the plan for The Tennis Center project at Millersville Park because the County has failed to come to a consensus with its citizens or provide for them. Tennis is an Olympic sport, played by millions recreationally and is also a worldwide spectator sport. It has been played in some form since the 12th century. It is played at all levels of society and at all ages. The sport can be played by anyone who can hold a racket, including wheelchair users and children. It is now played by nearly every country on the globe with tournaments for the highest competitive levels from Saudi Arabia to Australia to South Africa with players coming from Argentina, Spain, Serbia, Russia et al. A multibillion dollar recreational industry. What's wrong with Anne Arundel County that it doesn't want to be a part of something this great? The absence of a private partner does not change the responsibility of the county to fulfill its pledge to our tennis community. Requiring proof annually of the need for indoor courts after admittedly recognizing and promising to build something is a great injustice and betrayal by the County. Libraries and schools and fields and swimming pools and boat launches and iceskating rinks and bike paths don't generally have the requirements or prerequisites that the county is unfairly asking of the tennis community to prove the need for indoor facilities repeatedly every year for the past ten. Designs and suggestions have been submitted over the past 5 years to include opportunity for additional uses on the property for the benefit of more than just tennis players. Any construction of a recreational park at the Millersville site will cause increased development and traffic in this area of our county. Careful planning is a must, but unless you label it a Conservation Preserve and don't touch it — change will happen for this neighborhood's future. Tennis activities are no more disruptive than any other use and much less than many considered. I implore you to reconsider your current direction and make a better plan that provides for the multitude of AA County residents who actively play tennis weekly if not daily. Make it happen.
2/23/2022		To Whom It May Concern I strongly support reinstating and prioritizing the Tennis Center in our county. Our Hispanic children and their parents are learning Tennis which is a miracle, knowing our passion for soccer. Tennis gives more children the opportunity to participate in teams, play with their families and perhaps start the possibilities for some of them to go and play in college. We need to have access to more courts and a Center where they can practice seriously. On behalf of the Hispanic community who have been learning and enjoying Tennis, we would like you to consider this petition. Our children have not had Golf organizations coming to offer free lessons like the Tennis Alliance; therefore, we consider Tennis the one making Anne Arundel County a welcoming place for us. Tennis has been the place where our isolated families, in mostly isolated schools, interact with many other families of different backgrounds. We appreciate this inclusion and thank the Tennis Alliance for all the commitment to the community! Even for soccer, there are only a few scholarships, so many children wish to join them but can't. Tennis has been that place where money is not an issue!
2/24/2022		I support the push for in-door public tennis courts for Anne Arundel County. AA County has a large community of tennis players ranging from youth to senior citizens who currently have no public in-door courts to play at during winter months. Our only option is to pay expensive private clubs fees for access to courts, to which many cannot afford.
2/24/2022		We have been eager to see a tennis center here in Anne Arundel County. Please keep what was promised! Keep the plans for a tennis center. We live in a great county. Many other counties offer indoor tennis facilities. Time for us to catch up so that my son may enjoy the opportunity to grow in his skill level year round.
2/24/2022		Dear Anne Arundel County: I want to express my fervent support of the indoor tennis courts at Millersville. We have a large contingency of tennis players in Brooklyn Park to Arnold/Millersville area and we all have to drive 45 minutes + in order to play indoors. We hope to play in northern AA County soon with this fabulous development. Thank you all for your efforts,
2/24/2022		My name is ___ and we need an indoor tennis center. We've patiently waited for years and now is the time to act.
2/24/2022		We've waited for years and raised the funds and we support the building of the Tennis Building!
2/24/2022		I am writing in support of the proposed Tennis Center in Millersville. Our county is far behind our neighboring counties with tennis available to the public. Tennis is a life long sport that offers fitness and mental health - particularly in a COVID world. Please reinstate an prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been around since 2016.
2/24/2022		Good Morning, The process of the Millersville Tennis Center has been a long traveled road. We seem to be close so many times and then it seems to be on the chopping block. I can't imagine the wastless dollars spent on site searches, studies, and land acquisition etc. There are a number of county residents that have to travel to the surrounding counties to play tennis during the winter for a reasonable fee, including ME! It's a little crazy that PG County has so many amazing indoor tennis centers and AA County has zero. Please support the tennis center and PLEASE keep it a reasonably priced facility that community members of all income levels are able to enjoy. We do not need a SPORTS CLUB. This needs to be run by the county or a non-profit group.
2/24/2022		My name is _____ and I reside in Anne Arundel County. I am unable to attend tonight's meeting but wanted my thoughts to be heard. We very much still need a tennis center here in Anne Arundel County and please ask you to proceed with plans as quickly as possible. It will be so great and I look forward to the day when the center opens! Tennis is fun and healthy for all ages. Thank you.
2/24/2022		My name is _____ and I am a resident of Anne Arundel County. I am also someone who, in recent years has gotten back into playing tennis and am writing today to express my support for an indoor tennis center. Tennis in AA County is a multi-generational activity and the players in Anne Arunder are very diverse. I've played with teenagers and people in the 80s and just about every ethnic background in the county. It is great exercise, a good social experience and is highly correlated with life expectancy and quality of life.*However, we are desperately missing an indoor tennis facility in the county. It is a glaring need and I strongly urge that it gets added to the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). I will also note that I was struck by some of the arguments against it a few months ago that claimed that the County shouldn't invest in an indoor facility given that no private group had previously been able to make it economically successful. That strikes me as exactly backwards. We have a need in the county that private enterprise hasn't been able to meet that will broadly benefit the citizens of the county, keeping them healthier and more engaged. That is exactly what we should be investing in. Thank you for your consideration and, hopefully, support.
2/24/2022		AA County really needs an indoor tennis complex in order to keep and attract residents.
2/24/2022		My wife and I support the building of the Tennis Center in Millersville. AA County unlike the surrounding counties, does not have an indoor tennis facility, available to the public. Please consider building this one.
2/24/2022		Good morning, I am writing to implore you to build the Millersville Tennis Center and not to eliminate it from the AACO's 5 year plan. I along with countless others have to drive to other counties...often 1-2 hours roundtrip to play tennis indoors at other county's indoor facilities. There is simply no excuse for our county not to have comparable indoor facilities to our neighboring counties. Please vote to keep the Millersville Tennis Center in your 5 year plan.

**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

2/24/2022		Dear Board-I am unable to make tonight's zoom call. I was on the last call and unfortunately did not speak up to express my extreme disappointment that the Millersville Tennis Center is in danger of not being built as planned. I am missing tonight's call, because I am playing contract time Tennis in another county- Prince Georges at a facility that takes my hard earned money and benefits from my love of the sport. How does that make any sense? Why wouldn't the county that I live in and pay taxes(County and City of Annapolis) want to enjoy the revenue that a facility like Millersville would garner.? A sport that is enjoyed by our youth and benefits our Super Seniors who are trying to stay active and healthy, as well as all of us in between. I understand the challenges of deciding what improvements are needed and which projects should take precedent in the planning process. I understand that not everyone gets what they want, but if this isn't a clear need in the our county, then I don't know what is. Look to your neighbor Howard County. They practically have facility's in every corner of the county. The Tennis community is passionate. They give back. They spend money. This facility would be busy from open to close 12 months out of the year. Thanks for your time. Now do the right thing.
2/24/2022		We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016. The Dept. of Rec and Parks is planning to eliminate the Tennis Center at Millersville Park project from Anne Arundel County's 5-year plan, "Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan" (2022 LPPRP). Our neighboring counties have 18 public indoor facilities providing courts and programming, Anne Arundel County has none. The draft Plan dismisses the long-established need for an indoor/outdoor public tennis center in Anne Arundel County and proposes to repeat a lengthy multi-year process for tennis, with a new site search and land acquisition. It would discard 8 years of studies and the recommendations of the previous Plans (2013 LPPRP and 2017 LPPRP). We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016.
2/24/2022		We would like the County to reconsider the approval of the Millersville Site for a badley needed Tennis Facility. Thank you.
2/24/2022		Good morning, I am a resident of Anne Arundel County and have a family of tennis players, in the middle school, at the high school level and as adults. We are all in strong support of having an indoor tennis facility to allow athletes of all ages access to a place where they can exercise and engage one another in the enjoyment of this lifelong sport. Thank you.
2/24/2022		Dear County Executive Pittman, County Council Members, Director of Recreation and Parks Rick Anthony, Associate Director of Recreation and Parks Jessica Leys, and all concerned, I recently moved back to the area from California - I grew up in Anne Arundel County - and was excited to retire back to the area I have always called 'home'. Retirement for me is filled with tennis - all year long - indoors and outdoors. What has struck me upon our return here is how severely lacking the facilities are in Anne Arundel county. We travel to various locations throughout Maryland and the MidAtlantic to compete. What I have seen is that every other county in the state has impressive indoor and outdoor tennis centers. There's Watkins Park and College Park in Prince George's County, Cabin John, Olney and Wheaton in Montgomery County and almost every neighborhood in Howard County has a large tennis facility. Anne Arundel is seriously lacking in this area. In addition, pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America. It is a sport that can be played on tennis courts - many tennis courts are now hybrid pickleball/tennis courts. Why not include this in the Tennis Center plans to appeal to even more people? This is a County-wide project to support the need in Anne Arundel County for more year-round programming, after-school activities, summer camps, indoor recreation serving youth, adults, seniors, and underserved constituents. Let's get this project completed! Thank you for all you do for Anne Arundel County,
2/24/2022		Hello... I am writing to express my support for the continued building of the indoor tennis facility in AAC. I am a USTA/ACTA tennis player and have had to play matches @ 8 or even 9pm at night because of indoor court availability. Furthermore, pickleball has become increasingly popular creating more demand for indoor courts. Residents of AAC need to be able to have indoor availability in the winter and the continued effort to build another indoor facility is important to the community. Please vote YES to build another indoor court facility!
2/24/2022		Hi, My name is _____ and I'm an avid tennis player. I'm 30 years old and I am a former Anne Arundel County resident. I currently live in Los Angeles, California, but I am writing because the issue of accessible tennis opportunities for youth and adults is an important one. I grew up in Baltimore and started playing tennis as a pre-teen. Getting involved with tennis as a young person was a game-changer for me, and I am so grateful to be able to continue to play the sport. It keeps me physically healthy, focused and motivated. It also is a boost for my mental health in terms of the social aspects and the community it provides. When I lived in Glen Burnie, I got involved with the Tennis Alliance of Anne Arundel County and I experienced first-hand the positive impact they had on communities through their free tennis lessons and game days for youth. It is astonishing that neighboring counties have a multitude of public indoor facilities, and Anne Arundel County has zero. I am fortunate enough to live in a city where outdoor tennis year-round is a reality, but I know that is not the case in a state like Maryland with varying seasonal weather. As someone who has benefited tremendously from tennis, this is about more than just land and money. It's about the opportunity to impact the lives of current and future generations in ways that stretch beyond what we might imagine today. I implore you to please reinstate the approved Tennis Center at Millersville Park and prioritize it in the County's five-year plan.
2/24/2022		I am very much in favor of an indoor tennis facility. As a recent retiree I would make use of it several times a week during the October to April time frame. I have lived in Anne arundel County for 28 years and tennis has played a major part in my health and social welfare.
2/24/2022		To whom it may concern on Annapolis Parks and Rec RE: indoor tennis center I can't make the meeting tonight but I am strongly in favor of an indoor center. In addition to wanting to use the center for myself with adult friends/clinics/leagues, there is a real lack of internal activities for kids in winter. Being able to take kids to play tennis on cold gloomy winter days would be a huge bonus and one more thing to help us get the kids off iPads and Xboxes. Thanks for your consideration
2/24/2022		Sir or Madam: My name is _____. I chaired the Annapolis Neck Small Area Planning Committee, part of which I had a hand in authoring, during a previous county executive's administration, and I have worked as the varsity tennis coach at Annapolis High School. Over many years, I have captained and been a member of numerous men's and mixed tennis teams in leagues in Anne Arundel County under the USTA aegis. I have been indirectly involved when the Mid-Atlantic Section of the USTA held District or Regional Championships at sites in Anne Arundel County and one occurred at the home facility of the Annapolis Panthers on my watch. At present there are also two USTA sanctioned tournaments held in Anne Arundel County, events, like the District USTA Championships, that bring considerable out-of-county participants and much revenue to businesses in the county. The need for a tennis center in Anne Arundel County and the benefits recreationally and economically thereof have been repeatedly demonstrated and recognized by both the county executive and the Planning Department. It is my understanding that the draft plan now dismisses the long-established need for an indoor/outdoor public tennis center in Anne Arundel County, its location and design at the Millersville site, and proposes to repeat a lengthy multi-year process for tennis, with a new site search and land acquisition. Doing so effectively discards 8 years of studies and the recommendations of the previous Plans (2013 LPPRP and 2017 LPPRP) and publicly reneges on the voiced Department and Administration commitment to a tennis center facility for Anne Arundel County. This is unacceptable, and I passed along this observation to the County Executive recently while speaking with him regarding the Millersville site and the disappointment in the community with how the county has handled the plans for a tennis facility there subsequent to the funding thereof. Instead of proposing a new site search and land acquisition process that will consume years of effort, the plan should either retain the Millersville site itself and restore the project to its original design, or commit existing county owned land for the purpose and recommend retaining the authorized funding in the county budget to build it. We need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County! Please reinstate and prioritize a Tennis Center project as originally designed that has been approved since 2016. It is a real disservice to the thousands of citizens who participate in tennis not to do so.
2/24/2022		As a resident of Anne Arundel County for the last 15 years, I am very disappointed in the lack of support the county council has had for our tennis community. We all know it a safe, non-contact sport that is fun and competitive for folks of all ages. It needs no referees, little upkeep and very little management fees. It is the preferred sport, along with pickleball for seniors. Truxtun is over capacity with seniors rotating in and out on all the courts many hours a day. I see many baseball, and soccer fields for youngsters, so why not provide equal funds for county seniors who are limited to few sports, but can enjoy and compete for many years in an activity we love. Furthermore, all adjacent counties have at least one indoor county facility, including DC. We are a wealthy county compared to many, and is is shameful you have ignored the tennis community's plea for consideration of this modest venue. It is hoped that we can find a solution together, and keep our dream alive.
2/24/2022		Hi, We need a tennis center. Been waiting forever and it would really benefit the community. Thank you
2/24/2022		We have community organized for 8 years. Please
2/24/2022		To whom.I have been playing tennis 32 years, mostly in the public sector and USTA leagues. The tennis facilities we currently have inn AA county are paltry and i am being generous.Big parks like Riva, Patuxent river and the large park on Route 424 have NO tennis courts, pathetic. Its time to do something about it and make a wonderful social and active sport more available to all our residents from adolescents to seniors (me) who want to keep fit Please help, i know you can do it.



**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

2/24/2022		Dear County Representative, My name is _____. From 2014 - 2020, I was the President of AACTA, Anne Arundel Community Tennis Association. As a leader in the tennis community, I supported the tennis center and was hopeful for its future! I was surprised to see all of the hard work, dedication and approvals cast aside so easily. I honestly do not understand how that happened. We absolutely need a tennis center for Anne Arundel County. Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016
2/24/2022		Anne Arundel has NO indoor courts nor a facility where tennis players can congregate to play and socialize (which is not the case for the pickleball players who have numerous opportunities to gather and play indoors). For 8 years the tennis community has been working with the county to build a tennis facility with indoor tennis. The Recreation department found the perfect spot and the process began. How can you deny the tennis players a place to play during inclement weather? If the current land in Millersville, identified as the place to build this facility, is reallocated to other purposes, it will set the project back years. I am afraid that I will not see it in my lifetime. A tennis facility will be a benefit to all age groups As a 65+ player, should I plan to spend my senior years in Anne Arundel County? Or do as many of my contemporaries have done, move out of the county/state? Our county executive has run on a platform of AA county is a place for all. Tell me that the tennis community is included in his Anne Arundel! Please honor the commitment made 8 years ago and continue with the tennis facility in the current site so that it may be a reality in the near future. Thank you
2/24/2022		I feel it is shameful that Anne Arundel County has cancelled the Tennis Center Project which many people have worked hard to plan and raise funds. It needs to be PRIORITIZED. It is possible to reinstating the center as a priority. AA County has no publicly available indoor tennis center, unlike neighboring counties. The Need Remains In 2020 the number of tennis players grew nationally by 22% - faster than pickleball. Tennis has over 21 million players (pickleball, 4.2 million). While we applaud Rec and Parks for supporting new and better facilities for sports in Anne Arundel County from swim centers to field sports to pickleball, we object to the 2022 LPPRP plan that sends tennis to the end of the line. Our neighboring counties have 18 public indoor tennis centers providing programs for youth, adults, seniors. Anne Arundel County has none. We sincerely need this center. Please continue the planning for the county indoor tennis center at the Millersville site.
2/24/2022		Hi, my name is _____. We need an indoor tennis facility equal to or better than PGCO's Watkins facility. We've been patiently waiting for years and would very much appreciate a vote in favor of this facility. Thank you.
2/24/2022		I'm very disappointed in the draft of the 2022 LPPRP. I have been looking forward to the plans for a local Tennis Center. It is sorely needed and missing in Anne Arundel County. Please reconsider this project.
2/24/2022		My name is Jeannie Park and I am an active member of the AA County tennis Community. AA County needs an indoor tennis center. We used to have the Severn Valley Tennis Facility, but when that was sold, the only public indoor facility is currently SportFit located in Bowie in PG County. SportFit is overcrowded with tennis players ranging in age from very young to our senior players and SportFit is not always convenient for those living in AA County. So many in the tennis community have spent countless hours planning, researching, attending meetings and looking forward to a new indoor facility in AA County. We have all patiently waited for years for a new facility and now is the time to act. Please help us to realize the efforts of so many to make this happen. Tennis is a lifelong sport and as we continue to grow our community we need a facility to grow with us. Thank you for your time,
2/24/2022		Hi, I am not able to attend the meeting but I wanted to share that Anne Arundel County really needs an indoor tennis facility. Please support this initiative and seek ways to make it happen.
2/24/2022		I am a resident of Anne Arundel County. My husband and I are also avid tennis players and would like to share our support for an indoor tennis facility. I currently drive to Prince George's County to play in the winter, as there is no other accessible indoor tennis center. The Navy Brigade is only available at very small intervals throughout the Winter season, due to restrictions from Navy players, Navy personnel and league games. Please consider our request for an indoor tennis center in your AAC 2022 parks and recreation plan.
2/24/2022		Our son gave up playing tennis because he couldn't find an Anne Arundel indoor tennis site after our local YMCA stopped offering indoor tennis in Arnold AND they stopped offering outdoor tennis groups also. There are a lot of avid tennis players of all ages in AA County and it's time to fund an indoor tennis center! We're willing to pay reasonable fees to play there....
2/24/2022		I would like to point out that Crofton Park has been decimated by the new high school. I understand that the park land is owned by the AACo School Board, but Crofton has lost its access to its only beautiful and extensive path through the woods that was prized by many in the community. Now the path is a very short slog through the mud to where it becomes impassable. The Board has no interest in this, I'm sure, leaving the community with no parkland for general use. Swann Park has hilly bike trails that are challenging and unsafe for walking, especially by less mobile people. So Crofton has no substantial green space anymore, and many of us lament the loss of our beautiful park and the friends we made while walking our dogs there.
2/25/2022		There is a big need for more INDOOR courts, especially during the winter season. Additional outdoor courts would be great! I totally support any means needed to approve, build and maintain the original complex proposed by the Anne Arundel Tennis Alliance for the Millersville Road tennis facility.
2/25/2022		My husband and I moved to Anne Arundel County to be closer to our grand children, better access to health care and educational opportunities. Although we do not play tennis, our grandchildren are growing and interested in various sports. It is for them that I looked into tennis and found out that the indoor tennis project is threatened. This seems short sighted to us. Tennis is a terrific sport for teens and a sophisticated county like Anne Arundel should keep the project in the plan. Please reinstate and prioritize the Tennis Center project that has been approved since 2016.
2/25/2022		Ann Arundel County: As a former resident of Ann Arundel County and Director of Tennis at Chartwell Golf and Country Club I am very disappointed that you are not going forward in building the Tennis Center in Ann Arundel. Tennis has been a passion for me my entire life! Over the years I have countless times Coached Juniors and Adults that were unable to afford lessons or clinics at a private club. (which the Tennis Center would have provided). As a junior tennis player I had the opportunity to play and participate in many programs conducted year round in the Parks and Recreation department where I grew up. The Tennis Center in Ann Arundel would have given many locals the occasion to play year-round at a public facility.
2/25/2022		I am a 30 year voting and tax paying resident of Anne Arundel County. And, I am a life long Tennis player and I have managed /Captained competitive tennis teams in the 50 & over, 55 & Over, 60 & Over and 65 & Over United States Tennis Association Leagues for about 20 years now. Some of our teams qualified to play in National Competitions. In addition in recent years I worked with the Tennis Alliance of Anne Arundel County and helped in providing tennis lessons/clinics to Inner City youths and to Special Athletes. Some of you have heard testimony from members of the Special Olympics as they plead for the leaders of Anne Arundel County to make good on a promise to develop indoor tennis facilities, so they may play and train year round. In the past 4 years I had to joined the Howard County tennis leagues because the more advance players migrated away from Anne Arundel County due in a large part to the lack of sufficient tennis facilities available 12 months of the year. We do not have to look far to see the serious rise in youth violent crime; I have a background in dealing with youth Violent Crime as a former Special Agent in Charge of the ATF Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Program and Chairman of the National GREAT Training Program, I know how important it is to get our young citizens involved in after school programs where they can learn life skills that teach them how to interact in society with peers in positive ways and conflict resolution. Tennis is very much a tool that provides the environment to build young people's positive life skills. I give you a couple examples of how young men and women were introduced to the sport at public courts and went on to be top international players and successful members of our society. Arthur Ashe learned to play tennis on public courts in Henric's County (Richmond) Virginia and he grew to be a Hall of Fame adult player. Serena & Venus Williams learned their tennis on public courts in Compton, California and their tennis stories are still being written. Both are Grand Slam Champions. Francis Tiafoe, currently a strong member of the Pro tennis tour, the son of a custodian at University of Maryland, learned his tennis in Prince Georges County. There are many more examples of Americans who grew into great members of society using integrity and skills developed at local tennis facilities. Anne Arundel County has fallen well behind the neighboring communities as it pertains to a public Tennis Center. please do not abandon the opportunity to move forward in constructing an indoor/outdoor public owned tennis center. You will be glad that you participated in being part of its development. There are very qualified volunteer leaders who can help, Stacia Bontempo and Louise Thomas, to name just two.
2/25/2020	email	Thank you for soliciting comments regarding the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). I'm unable to attend the Zoom town hall but would like to request that consideration be given to a dog park in the vicinity of Parole. I live in Heritage Harbour which has a large population of companion dogs. To my knowledge, the closest dog park is in Quiet Waters Park. I would love to see a quality dog park with areas for small and large dogs. The dog park at Paterson Park in Baltimore City is a great example.
2/25/2022	email	<b>*WE FULLY SUPPORT THIS PLAN!</b> Very good justification of needs, uses, but where, when, cost ?

**2022 LPPRP Anne Arundel County Email Comments**

2/26/2022	email	My name is _____ and I urge the county to build indoor courts and keep it affordable by managing them by the county. My friends and I travel to Watkins Park in PG county to play indoors, a long drive for most. PG county has at least 3 bubbles for tennis! Please don't use the money already marked for tennis courts on soccer fields etc. We seniors (in our 60s, 70's and 80's ) are still on the courts! It is a game that you can play long after soccer and football players have retired from their games.
2/27/2022	email	I applaud the hard work and good intentions of those who contributed to and worked so hard on this plan. For the most part, the plan provides a rational and even-handed professional process to identify needs and establish priorities for the equitable allocation of Rec & Parks resources. It is therefore extremely disappointing and disillusioning to learn that our County Executive and his administration have removed the Tennis Center at Millersville Park project from the 2022 LPPRP: arbitrarily; without criteria; and without consultation or explanation. Anne Arundel County purchased the Millersville site 14 years ago with tax-payer dollars and a promise to develop the property for active recreation for the general public. The Millersville Park Tennis Center project moved through 8 years of studies and approvals, site plans drawn, construction funding approved - all steps recommended in the LPPRP 2013 and LPPRP 2018 The 2022 LPPRP must support the completion of this project - not arbitrarily abandon it. We need to find better ways to see that LPPRP plans are accomplished and executed not dismissed.
2/27/2022	email	Thank you for the hard work done to produce the draft 2022 LPPRP and thank you for this opportunity to ask questions and to comment on the Plan. *Why is the Millersville Park Tennis Center project being cut from the 2022 LPPRP?* - Need and demand have been well established in the 2013 LPPRP and 2018 LPPRP. - Rec and Parks has enthusiastically supported the project since the 2013 LPPRP. - The County Council has approved the project every year from FY17 to FY22. - It is a countywide project providing benefits to residents across all seven districts. - The Millersville Park Tennis Center was approved for construction with \$6.5M in the FY22 budget. *What is the process that allows the County to ignore its own recommendations in the 2013 and 2018 LPPRP and delete an active project it previously recommended? *The two previous LPPRPs made a public indoor/outdoor tennis center for Anne Arundel County a priority. *Why does the draft 2022 LPPRP state that the Millersville Park site is "no longer available" for the new indoor tennis center project listed under "Land Acquisition?" * *What process allows for a site, that is already approved for a specific "countywide" designated project (Millersville Park Tennis Center), to be withdrawn and then given to a "district" designated project, as yet unplanned (sports fields for District 4)? *Are there minutes of any discussion or any vote taken by the County administration or by Rec and Parks that led to the abandonment of the Millersville Park Tennis Center project and the designation of the Millersville site for a sports field District 4 project?* - The County Council was asked to review "the lease" with Coppermine, and to vote on "the lease". They did so. - The County Council was "not permitted to discuss or debate the project. * - The County Council "did not vote to abandon" the project. They "voted to reject the lease.* *At the Feb. 24th virtual Townhall, why did Rec and Parks single out the tennis community and deny residents the opportunity to speak about the Millersville Park Tennis Center? *The Townhall was conducted for the purpose of allowing residents to be heard - "to give input and comment" on the draft 2022 LPPRP. Yet, after 5 or 6 residents spoke in support of the Millersville Park Tennis Center, the Rec and Parks Chief of Planning and Construction announced that anyone wishing to speak to the tennis center or Millersville Park are asked "not" to speak but may use the chat to leave a written comment. The meeting ended early with the tennis community not given the opportunity to speak further. COMMENT I object to the draft 2022 LPPRP. This plan eliminates the countywide project, the Millersville Park Tennis Center, with no transparent public process, discussion, or debate. Without justification, the Plan discards a project that would deliver public benefit to all seven County districts. The draft 2022 LPPRP ignores years of planning for a tennis center; ignores proven need and demand for tennis; and dismisses equitable benefit to a wide and diverse constituency. The site and funding for the Millersville Park Tennis Center should remain in the FY23 budget and the project continue. COMMENT At the Feb 24th Townhall zoom meeting, after 5 or 6 residents spoke in opposition to cutting the tennis center project, it was bizarre and shocking to hear the Rec and Parks Chief of Planning and Construction say directly, in effect "If you want to speak to the tennis center or Millersville Park, un-raise your hand. We are taking no more comments on tennis or Millersville Park. You can write a comment in the chat box." * After all other residents wishing to speak were allowed to do so, the meeting then ended early (less than an hour including the county presentation). Many tennis players were denied the opportunity to be heard as promised. To single out the tennis community and to refuse to let residents speak in support of the Millersville tennis center project, is not acceptable. This error should be addressed. COMMENT A new "sports fields" concept at Millersville Park is not a good use of this site. The site is designated for active recreation and a tennis center is the ideal use. A tennis center would have minimal and staggered traffic, much less parking, virtually no noise, and low-impact lighting. COMMENT Eight years after the initial County Council action on this project, it is time for the County to get the tennis center project done - partner or no partner. Tennis should not be penalized because the County has not secured a private partner. Rec and Parks' plan to partner with the private sector for the Millersville Park Tennis Center project was always presented to the County Council with the caveat that, if the partnership did not work as planned, the County would still proceed with the project and would put the funding towards the indoor portion of the project. The public need for this countywide project remains, and so does the obligation of the County to deliver.COMMENT The tennis community, and the underserved communities who would benefit from this project, have been shut out of any meaningful discussion on this project. It was said on the Feb 24th Townhall that County Executive Pittman met with the local Millersville Community Feb 10th, 2022. Where is the meeting with the tennis community?

**Appendix C:**  
**Public Engagement**

*Plan2040 Comments/  
Recreation and Parks*

Small Area	What is Special About Your Community?	What Has Changed in the Last 5-15 Years?	What Needs Improvement?	What should your community look like in 20 years?	Other Comments
<b>Jessup</b>					
	We still have some large areas of green space we would like to preserve.		More recreational facilities	Vibrant community centers and trees, parks and well-tended public areas	
	Still have green space and some farms			Parks in this edge of the county would be nice	
<b>Severn</b>					
	The last open space in North County		Walking trails	We need community centers, parks, libraries and other public spaces	
	Trees and parks		Sidewalks and parks for children to play and children to walk to or ride their bikes in		
			Continue to expand hike & bike trails		
			Continue to develop hiker/biker trails through Severn area		
			Increase green space and parks, rather than adding to impervious surface. Connect people to the outdoors, neighborhood parks.		
<b>Brooklyn Park</b>					
			More parks and open space	No duplication of services – Parks/Rec/Senior	
			Future Belle Grove Park	A lot of families, older established part of the County and would like to find a spot to take the family for a picnic. To have pedestrian access to outdoor space. There are underutilized parks in the community.	
			Parks/Rec	Water access – the streams here are not clean. Lack of access to the waterfront	
				Have to compete to put boat in the water	
				More recreation & parks and open space	
<b>Crownsville</b>					
	Woods – trail w/ access	Farms are being bought up for housing development	More greenways-sports fields for youth	Central County greenway	Preserve Crownsville HG as open space
	Greenways (campground feel)	Addition of South Shore Trail and Bacon Ridge Trail system	Tennis courts but not tennis facilities	Farms, 4-H, horseback riding facilities	Hiking trails that connect small pubs/markets
	River – picturesque, recreation	Positive change: bike trail development		The same maybe more forest conserved, esp. abandoned farmland	Consider making use of analytical methods to optimize the use of resources (athletic fields as an example) rather than adding more fields. More efficient use will have the same or better impact than adding new
	Open Land			More “open space”/ parks green/forest for residents to enjoy	Work on the South Shore trail phase II – Why is this taking so long?
	Wood areas, fields, green space			Maintain as much greenspace as possible	It's not progress to destroy natural environment & not preserve historical buildings etc.
	Recreation sites such as: fairgrounds, Bacon Ridge, Severn River, Crownsville Hospital site, Ren. Fest			A park for families to enjoy greenspace	No tennis center – this is a waste of resources in terms of \$ and land. Why tear up relatively undeveloped land? It should be a “redevelopment” program
				Greenspace with a park, hiking and biking trails and fields for the children to play sports	
				The recreation opportunities afforded by the Crownsville Hospital development, the Bacon Ridge Trails, fair grounds Eisenhower GC and about to be developed water-works like trails	
				Increased recreational parks – NO Tennis Facility	
				Open space – trails	
				It should look like it does now, with open green space	
				Example offered of signs in hometown in New Jersey “25 more acres saved from development;” tax dollars used for conservation and open space preservation	
				This area is described as green buffer around Annapolis; would like to see it stay green	
				Emphasis on greenway protection so animals/species have connected corridors to move through	
<b>Odenton</b>					
	We LOVE backing up to the WB&A trail	Need for childcare, recreation (off-base)	An indoor pool/swim center would be great	Our Community should have beautiful parks, safer bike routes, and affordable meeting spaces	The federal Dairy farm should be purchased by the County and used as a recreation area
	The Dairy Farm and the open space it provides. It should not be developed into housing or a recreation area; keep it as open space for community.		We need recreation and green areas to go in where new developments and families are going in, to bolster the sense of community.	Nature Trails	
				Open space for rec	
<b>Glen Burnie</b>					



Small Area	What is Special About Your Community?	What Has Changed in the Last 5-15 Years?	What Needs Improvement?	What should your community look like in 20 years?	Other Comments
	Access to the bay			More bike paths would be a great alternative to travel and also provide recreational use	I have enjoyed kayaking, often leading small groups, almost every week, Spring, Summer, and Fall, all of the liquid gem waterways of our fine county. I realize our local waters are vital resources to be both protected and shared, by all. Our wonderful rivers and beautiful Chesapeake Bay are critical. They provide food, recreation, engagement with nature, and most importantly, educate the public, about the balance of our ecosystem, its resilience, along with its fragility. This brings to the forefront how public access to our county's precious gems, need to be protected, and most importantly, expanded. We must look to the future of an expanding population, and the inherent need for population growth to be matched with current and future planning, ahead of time, for reasonable access by our families, friends, tourists, and our future generations. This is good for the people, our waters, and local business.
<b>Maryland City / Russett</b>					
	Dog/bike/walking trails		Add walking/biking paths to connect housing to public transportation, to shopping, to other communities, to park	Greenspace, greenways, more trails	
	walking trails		Likes to bike and hike a lot. Would be great to see bike paths from Russett to Maryland City, along rive and Laurel Park	Oak Hill could be part of a hiker biker trail. People are not putting that as a high emphasis. There is a huge green space that is not being used. All of these things could be part of our plan 20 years out.	
	walking trails		When developing Laurel Race Track, how do we invest, what's the public interest there other than development, or horse racing? What about a rec center for residents on this side of town, or a school. These are things that we should address in a comprehensive way. It just can't be about the Race Track.	Green spaces that are accessible	
				Far, far more bicycle paths & pedestrian paths networked to connect the City of Laurel, Laurel Park, MD City, Russett, Annapolis Jct., Savage, Nat'l Business Park, NSA, Fort Meade, and Odenton to enable bicycle commuting to MARC stations as well as recreational uses.	
				Connect bicycle & pedestrian paths across county boundaries into a true network	
				A park & rec center with a variety of classes for all ages	
				Extended hiking trails around Oxbow Lake	
<b>Pasadena/Marley Neck</b>					
	Water access			Preserve all the parkland we have now so it's never developed or acquired. Preserve wildlife. Keep these places for people in the area to use, and don't lose acreage.	
	Good parks			Trails connecting the parks.	
	Have been here for 30 years; moved here for a house next to woods, nearby parks, and easy access to transportation corridors.				
<b>Lake Shore</b>					
	Close proximity to the public library and Downs Park				
	Cose to public library and Downs Park				
<b>Broadneck</b>					
	Riverfront accessible to both the Severn and Magothy Rivers	Good things: more recreational facilities, hiker/biker trails	More public water access	A place where land/open space has been preserved, with more social, economic, and racial diversity	
	Greater community: Good schools, B&A trail, Anne Arundel Community College	Bike trail on college parkway happening	Public recreation space (not dominated by league play)	Protected open spaces	
	Very active school programs and sports for all	More public access to water (Sprigg Farm, Jonas Green) but more is needed	Finish the Broadneck "recreation"/bike trail	More parks and green spaces	
	Arnold/Broadneck generally: Water – Severn, Magothy & Bay; convenient to everything – shopping, libraries, restaurants, parks; the Community College	New parks	Expedite completion of Broadneck Peninsula Trail. If it could help traffic problems	Bike/hike trails and green space	
	Livability and park land		Still need extended safe walking/biking options on feeder roads	More green space and recreational areas	
	Adjacent to Sandy Point Park		Farmland protection	More non-motorized avenues of transit, hiking and biking	

Small Area	What is Special About Your Community?	What Has Changed in the Last 5-15 Years?	What Needs Improvement?	What should your community look like in 20 years?	Other Comments
	Water access and kayak launch sites		Farmland protection	Heard many calls for bicyclists and joggers but <u>require a 3-foot distance from cars.</u>	
	Access to water			Protect open space, especially 10 acres or less that are farms or should be considered farms <u>and should have easements</u>	
	Open space, trails			Hiker/Biker trails	
				Broadneck Trail will hopefully be successful in 20 years and involve more of the community. The plan involves connections going to different areas	
				Reexamine how we look at bicycling and walking. We have a lot of historic roads but we do not have a place for them. DO we want them and what are we going to do about them?	
				Broadneck Peninsula Trail has several local schools nearby. There are no plans right now to connect; they are pushed back to different phases. Make immediate adjustments to trail to connect to schools now to reduce trail. Must safely connect schools.	
<b>Severna Park</b>					
	Bike Trail access		Crime prevention, crime prevention on B&A Trail	More parkland	Trail continuity
	Open spaces like Kinder Park		More public access to water for <u>canoes/kayaks/SUPs</u>	Everyone should have access to the water	
	Quality of schools, parks, etc.		Recreation teams frequently have to travel to other parts of the County to play their games. New schools have just been built; why can we not play within Severna Park? We need <u>facilities</u>	Would love to see improvements to B & A trail going towards Pasadena	
	Recreation and water access are benefits to this area			Expanded/Improved green areas	
	Proximity to bike trails (multiple)			More recreational activities besides traditional <u>sports; concerts in the park, etc.</u>	
	Improved school & rec park facilities				
<b>Crofton</b>					
	Lots of people biking	What bike trails?	Parks- too small for volume of kids	More space dedicated as park lands to prevent <u>further development.</u>	
		The park behind Linthicum Walks – the County should help maintain historic Linthicum Walks and other open spaces like this for people to enjoy. Would like to see as much green space and open space as possible.	We need some more open space	More open space	
			We're losing green space to development. The County counts golf courses as green space, which is private property and doesn't serve people as recreation areas for public access.	Greater environmental protections and park and recreation space that is aging friendly	
			Larger Parks		
			Additional large parks to use up open land, <u>denying realty space</u>		
			There is precious little land left		
<b>South County</b>					
	It is near the Bay and the Plax River with good access to water and trails	Riva Park	We need to increase conservations easement funding, place development moratorium or greenways, and RCA, increase impact fees, consider excise tax, etc.	Greenways and critical areas should be better protected.	More Patuxent River Access / Public fishing areas
			I understand the interest in water access but if we have backed up traffic on weekends where we already do on weekday rush hours, no one is <u>better off</u>	Greenway – Franklin Point, Turtle Run, Holder Property. Was zoned R1.	
				Talk to Barbara Polito at Department of Recreation and Parks who can help with programs to preserve farmland, also programs through the State. The County needs to put more money into farmland preservation.	
<b>Edgewater / Mayo</b>					
<b>Edgewater/Ma</b>	Small rural feel near the water a county park adjacent to us (S/R/ Farm Park) active community association	Modest improvement in Beverly Triton Park	Beverly Triton Park trail system and visitor amenities	Use Beverly Triton Nature Park as the Arlington Echo of South County	S River Farm park plan would have far more devastating impact on the property than what has been proposed and approved for Beverly Triton   this is a huge problem. Development and associated clear cutting and habitat destruction is already destroying our private land.   Please do not "pave Paradise and put up a parking lot" at S River Farm.
	Nature in and near us, recreation areas in and near us	Natural environment at South River Farm is <u>threatened by park</u>	Bike trail & pedestrian connectors to Edgewater	Rethink South River Farm Park – try to preserve it	
	Parks and beaches protect environment	Poor parks planning (too much development – leave the parks	Hiker/Biker safety	Preserved parks, green spaces, water quality improved, continue input and work with the citizens	

Small Area	What is Special About Your Community?	What Has Changed in the Last 5-15 Years?	What Needs Improvement?	What should your community look like in 20 years?	Other Comments
	Some really nice untouched forest parcels and natural parks.		Public private partnerships – Ex. Water access	Bev Triton Park & S River Farm Park into conservation bike friendly	
	Park on the Bay			Upgraded park and roads	
	Access to the water, quiet			County Parks that respect natural environment over human convenience and amenities	
	Can use and enjoy the water recreation easily.				
	Water access				
	People, Housing, stock, local events, water access				
	It has unspoiled & underdeveloped public & Private land				
	Historic, cottage communities, water access				
	Water access				
	Parks have opened with great ranges currently traffic from Loch Haven impedes 214				
<b>Annapolis Neck</b>					
	Historic value, walkability and water access		More investment in parks	More access to the bay	
<b>Annapolis Neck</b>					
	Nearby bike path to the point		Public access to recreational areas (parks, trails, water)		
	Variety of cultural and recreational activities		Preservation of open space. Quiet Waters is the jewel in the crown – we need more parks like Quiet Waters		
	Parks and greenspace				
<b>Deale/Shady Side</b>					
			Clean up wood behind the Wilson House; remove old machinery, tired appliances	It should have less grass and mowing more riverkeepers, oyster restoration areas, more green space, parks and healthy activity	
			There is a lot of trash in terms of old tires, appliances, etc. in the woods behind the Wilson property in Galesville. The State or County would need to come retrieve it to improve the woods for recreation		
<b>Online Responses</b>					
	The B&A trail, Kinder Farm Park, and other community parks provide adequate open space that is utilized by many in the community	Our county used to hold summer camps at the schools, we used to have local sports leagues (those now require that we drive north to fields and games).	more parks & rec support		There is almost nothing that was promised in last SAP. I was startled to learn of the inequities with other parts of the county and the paucity of services after moving here. I had to drive ridiculous distances to find my young children a decent park experience or swimming pool. We cannot enjoy biking or walking to local businesses. In short, South County should not continue to be the overlooked region of the county in the next 20 years.
	The water access for boating, kayaking, fishing, crabbing, etc.		We shouldn't have to drive 35-40 minutes for pools and certain recreational opportunities		
	Crofton is just sprawl. It has nothing to recommend it. No parks. No recreation.		the lack of recreational facilities, provides for an unhealthy population		
	nice parks (Broadneck, Arnold, Mago Vista, Belvedere, Bay Head, Sandy Point)		maybe a few sports fields (but 24 sports fields is too many).		
			need to better monitor and control the public parking at Triton Beverly beach park		
	What should your community look like in 20 years?		public water access		
	NO commercial development on historic Millersville Rd, including proposed tennis facility on BLD open field		more public facilities like a swim center to serve the southern part of the county (possibly use the vacant Giant in Edgewater on Rt. 2)		

Small Area	What is Special About Your Community?	What Has Changed in the Last 5-15 Years?	What Needs Improvement?	What should your community look like in 20 years?	Other Comments
	Existing county parks should be accessible to county residents who wish to use them and not just on special days, there should be bike trails and safe walking paths to get to those parks to reduce parking and traffic issues. People should want to live here because of all the great stuff they can do here, not because its a great place to commute in their car. Most residents aren't even aware of local parks like Beverly and Mayo beach, south river farms, Bacon Ridge, etc.		Tennis facility on Millersville Rd- money pit for the taxpayer to offer to few participants who do NOT even live in the area!!!)		
	The third lot, next to it on Route 214, belongs to the Rec and Parks, but nothing has been done with it. That is fine, I guess, if it is not needed				
	Local parks - we have so much land here. We could have parks that allow people to walk/run, enjoy nature, and take their kids safely to play. Franklin Point is one example - where does one park?				
	community park				
	I'd love more community-friendly parks/dog parks in south county				
	Enhanced recreation and services and attention to outdated schools				
	Connect bike paths to give local people recreation options				
	all public parks should have been assessed and budgeted for possible replacement or rehabilitation				
	more public recreation centers to maintain health of the public				



**Excerpt of results from Online Survey during  
Listening Sessions for Plan2040 -- Only listing  
results related to Recreation and Parks**

Question: What is most important?	Question: What do you like about Anne Arundel County?	Question: What needs to be improved?	Open Comments
Ability to enjoy the outdoors! Being able to ride my bike on roads without the threat of being hit by an aggressive driver or come to a sign that says my bike lane has ended (where am I supposed to go?). I think the hiking and boating are comparatively safe in the county. Kudos	Access to water	Access to waterfront (launches, parking, no gates	A third story: The public wanted a park, a Deale Park, and the location selected was just north of the Deale Library where an old tobacco barn stood, that could be left on site as a reminder of Deale's past. The park was included as a desirable project in the DSS Plan. Developers have eliminated the park. Drive by today and you'll see a sign on the property that reads, 20 homes coming here from the mid 400 thousands. Deale's population was 4,945 in 2010, it will certainly be greater now 8 years later, and we need that park more than ever
access to clean water	Access to water	Greater public water access; more park land and trails	Arundel Swim Center is horrible. There is water loss/waste, rust, air doesn't move, maintenance issues, and years of neglect. Pool is breaking down at the bottom
Bay access	Access to water	Lack of access to water	Boat ramp – officials were supposed to build one at Belle Grove Ponds, but it was not implemented. Baltimore County has a boat ramp and parking across the river, and we need access on our side of the river. Now you have to go to Baltimore City, Baltimore County or to Sandy Point or Fort Smallwood for access to fish or crab or ski
Better park system (check out Louisville, KY for ideas on excellent, free to the public, parks!)	Access to waterways	Lack of public access to Chesapeake Bay waterways	Quiet Waters Park: Trails – roots are damaging the asphalt, which is unsafe for biking. There are other maintenance issues.
Build out public water access improvements	Access to waterways for public	More open space, parks, walking trails	The area needs a gym /health center/weight room so you can walk to it instead of driving to Glen Burnie.
Consider re-vamping the Marley Station mall - that would be a good place for sports fields and a stadium instead of Crownsville	Bay access	More parks	The area needs more community centers (Brooklyn Park)
Enhancement of our open space / greenways	Great water access.	No recreation facility like the PG Sports and Learning Center	The public wanted ball fields for their kids. Deale Elks had a large property in Mason's Beach. We investigated but P&Z responded that the property was too wet and marshy for ball fields. We abandoned the idea as a result, but not much later the Elks sold their property to Charles Snyder of Snyder Development who began grading the site prior to permit issuance. He wanted to put upwards of 40 homes on the site. He built and sold somewhere around 25 houses on a property that was too wet for kids to play ball on
Lack of parks	I like the options offered through the Parks and Rec department and Anne Arundel	Parks	There are issues with a lack of public access to parks and facilities. There are more facilities in Montgomery County that are free to residents. Parks in Anne Arundel County require a fee, excluding those who cannot afford to pay. We all need access to natural resources.
Limited access to bay	Improved dialogue w R&P.. More interaction w residents on issues	Please stop developing our parks and drawing out of county residents	There is a large group of people that was not able to join the meeting tonight who are concerned over Spriggs Farm Park. The Broadneck community does not support a motorboat launch in this location, as it would draw additional traffic into the local neighborhood. Conserve Spriggs Farm Park for kayakers and paddleboarding
More green spaces	It must preserve and enhance waterways and boating access	Public access to county owned properties adjacent to local waters could be improved significantly by taking down fences adjacent property owners have installed across county property and adequately funding water access. The water access committee could be more transparent and reach out to the local communities	Thomas Point Park is difficult to visit. The problem is parking. Could we arrange for parking to be allowed on the Coast Guard Station?
Open/green space	Park are very promising	Public access to natural areas (water)	Need to address Public/Private Water Access Issues
Parks	Parks are great	Public infrastructure is not adequate (public water access)	Public access to water
Parks	South County is beautiful, but we pay taxes and see no adequate services for rec centers, senior citizens.. We deserve a large community pool and rec center to keep the kids out of trouble!!!	Public water access	More public water access
Quality of life with access to the outdoors including water access	The Bay. Need to enhance access for everyone	Public water access	Need more playing fields

Question: What is most important?	Question: What do you like about Anne Arundel County?	Question: What needs to be improved?	Open Comments
Retain open spaces and water access for the community	The Chesapeake Bay coupled with the access	Resources in general are not provided to South County residents with respect to parks and selection of playing fields for recreational sports managed through Parks and Rec, community centers, etc	Need for more public access to water
Water access	The unique character of the bay area and access to a clean and healthy Chesapeake Bay	The proposed Millersville Tennis Park is not needed by our county, not wanted by its neighbors, and ghastly expensive	Public water access, All private
	There is open space and parks and it's not overly built up.	There aren't enough parks (open green space) in the county	Public access to natural resources – too private
	Water access	Underuse of public waterfront land, lack of beaches and boat ramps	Downs – parking rolled
	Water access	We need to spend money where it's needed - parks	Need for more rec facilities
		We should have more parks and open areas, especially for physical activity	Need for more community centers for kids (weekends / after school)

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			2. Does not Support				3. Neutral			5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
			2. Does not Support				3. Neutral			5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support				5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
		3. Neutral					3. Neutral					3. Neutral		
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support						3. Neutral			5. Strongly Support				
		3. Neutral				4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
				1. Strongly Does not Support		4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support				5. Strongly Support							3. Neutral		
	4. Support				5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
			2. Does not Support		5. Strongly Support						4. Support			
				1. Strongly Does not Support			3. Neutral							1. Strongly Does not Support
				1. Strongly Does not Support					1. Strongly Does not Support					1. Strongly Does not Support
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support						4. Support			

GOAL HC7: Support diverse, flexible food models that provide healthy, culturally-relevant, accessible, and sustainable food in every community.					GOAL HC8: Provide a diverse range of accessible public recreational facilities to serve the needs of all County residents.					GOAL HC9: Efficiently manage, reduce and recycle residential solid waste.				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support							3. Neutral		
		3. Neutral			5. Strongly Support								2. Does not Support	
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
			2. Does not Support			4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
		3. Neutral				4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
		3. Neutral				4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
		3. Neutral					3. Neutral					3. Neutral		
		3. Neutral				4. Support						3. Neutral		
	4. Support				5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				
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	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
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5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
			1. Strongly Does not Support					1. Strongly Does not Support				2. Does not Support		
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support					4. Support			
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support							3. Neutral			5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support						4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
	4. Support					4. Support				5. Strongly Support				
5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support					5. Strongly Support				

GOAL HC10: Provide a high level of emergency medical care, fire protection, police protection, emergency management and an all hazards response to all residents and visitors of the County.					Comment
5. Strongly Support	4. Support	3. Neutral	2. Does not Support	1. Strongly Does not Support	Open-Ended Response
	4. Support				Goal HC8: Finding that there are areas of the county that have been overlooked for years for recreational opportunities. I went to all of the budget meetings last year and heard those in the Glen Burnie area beg for rec facilities - they have been begging for years, while I see a huge amount of money going to rec opportunities on the Mayo Peninsula while the Park part seems a bit lacking. Need to see more environmental concerns for such environmentally sensitive areas and not just making it all about Recs..
5. Strongly Support					While I strongly support or support all these goals, and feel they are admirable, I do have concerns about how some of them in actuality will be achieved. I would like to see the plans to provide for some of these goals as I am concerned that finding "equity" for one group may indeed take rights from other groups, particularly in today's climate of racial unrest and tension. Everyone in this county should have an opportunity for excellent education by raising all county schools to the level of the highest achieving schools without compromising what these excellent schools have already achieved. All areas of the county should have access to healthy foods, open air to play in, and programs to foster resiliency at the family level for obtaining these things. But in the end it is up to individuals and families to partake and do, and those that won't or don't should not take from those who will and do.
5. Strongly Support			2. Does not Support		I would encourage the use of SMART criteria for refining these goals...rather than only sharing the ideal outcome, I think these should be paired with intention...why is it important to have a high level of medical care? I am also not exactly sure what high level means...number of staff, spending, equitable resource allocation? For each of these, what makes them Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Relevant, Time-based? And I think 'specific' is extremely important here...AA County is unique in its character, quality of life, diverse employment opportunities, and health outcomes. I think the vision and goals could celebrate the unique nature of the County and in turn will be easier to realize and tangible for those implementing or impacted by the plan's implementation. Also HC6 should state 'Ensure accessibility' not 'enhance', if equity and inclusion are core to the plan's mission.
5. Strongly Support					This goal can lead to a very slippery slope, especially regarding older versus young citizenry needs. Yes, we desperately need more "recreational" areas but we deeply need a more inclusive, visionary approach to the term "recreation". First, there is a tremendous focus on "active" recreation rather than "passive" recreation and it tends to mean "young"... the automatic demands for more ball fields, for example. Our youth are already regimented to death and sports are only important to a certain percentage of them. And things like ball fields meet absolutely no needs of the elderly (and most middle aged). We need more varied forms of (and definitions of) "active" recreation and to value "passive" recreation. Maybe it is learning how to plant vegetable crops or turn one's yard or apartment green space into native plant areas. Or build bird or bat houses and maintain them. To be able to identify the plants and animals around one. To have quiet spaces to escape the incessant noise and stimulation of modern suburban life... to sit on benches and simply observe, or take photographs, or sketch something, or to read a book quietly but in a more natural environment. Set aside places for children to sled (assuming it ever snows again!) and loan out sleds for them to use. All of these things allow children to calm themselves and connect with their environment and provide nurturing spots and activities for older folks as well. So, yes, libraries and healthy eating and fire services and so on are important, necessary even, but they are not sufficient for a well-rounded thoughtful life.
5. Strongly Support					I would like to see our county extend its services to all its residents, and limit the focus on the elderly. While the programs that help those in need are vital (e.g. Meals on wheels) I find senior centers and the programming therein to be ageist and uninclusive. This is a function our library system could easily serve.
5. Strongly Support					While I think these are generally admirable goals and sound great on paper, I have concerns as to how they will be executed. For example, absolutely everyone in this county should receive an excellent and "equitable" education. But how you enact policies to achieve this is the question for approval, or not. We have some excellent schools and programs in this county. And some not great schools. Raise the not great schools up to the level of the excellent ones. But don't hurt the good ones to solve disparity for the sake of solving disparity and creating equity. Offer other choices throughout all the schools then just the "college prep tract" you see at some schools. Finally, stop teaching for tests and scores and start teaching for life— reading, writing, mathematics, science, government, home economics and shop class, art and music. In regards to libraries, I have no clue what you mean with this goal. What else is a library suppose to do? I do seriously question the "equity" of our current libraries programming and refusal to allow multiple voices to the table to be heard. The food goal is admirable for sure, we need availability of healthy food in all areas, but more so, we need education on healthy food choices and we need healthy food to be affordable. And, we need cultural competence in food when talking about "culturally appropriate food."
5. Strongly Support					Chesapeake highschool ja performing extremely poorly in areas such as algebra. The schools building needs renovations. We need better programs through the feeder system that promote conversations about race and the accurate teaching of American and world history. Additionally, programs for advanced learners are essential. I am highly concerned that the academic environment lacks the rigor that will prepare my children for college success at a competitive 4 year institution. They have the cognitive capability and home based resources, if I fear their lack of success then I seriously fear the lack of success for students who have fewer resources. We are directly next to Severna park and not that economically disadvantaged. The difference is stark and concerning.
5. Strongly Support					I would love to see municipal composting with curbside pickup. Our county does a great job with recycling, and I think we could lead the way here too. I also question why increasing diversity is listed in the "challenges" column in the slide. I'm sure it's not the author's intent, but it seems negative the way it's displayed.
5. Strongly Support					To develop more community fitness/aquatic centers distributed throughout the region to improve the over-all health and wellbeing of our counties residents.
5. Strongly Support					I am worried about supporting some of the language in these goals that seems to say that we will offer government services tailored to one's racial identity. While perhaps well-meaning, that is discrimination. True equality is offering the same government services in the same way to everyone regardless of their race, gender, or religion.
	4. Support				Please clarify what is meant by "all" because if one person is not satisfied, then the goal is null. Is that what you mean?
	4. Support				I think it is highly problematic that increasing ethnic and racial diversity in the County is listed as a challenge. This is an opportunity to build an inclusive community that prioritizes equity. Our children benefit from living in multicultural communities. Police protection should also not be lumped in with medical care. I want high quality medical care, but I want police focused on building community not promoting a culture of protection that allows for the proliferation of over-policing.
	4. Support				Need something on family homelessness and equity in employment opportunity. where is transportation section I wonder

GOAL HC10: Provide a high level of emergency medical care, fire protection, police protection, emergency management and an all hazards response to all residents and visitors of the County.					Comment
5. Strongly Support					The education system in the county favors the wealthy communities and stops short with the transient communities. We as community leaders can, and should, demand more and do more for our youth. Offer robust programs that do not break the bank for parents who are struggling to pay the bills as it is. When "providing access to learning opportunities" needs to come with affordability options for people who live above the poverty line (and not beyond their means), but well below the incomes needed for the programs. Oversight of wasted dollars on figureheads planning needs to be addressed and the money needs to go back into the community for the youth, seniors, and professional working adults looking to cross-pollinate their career skills or advance existing ones. I love the idea of supporting library programming, but if your community cannot get to the library because there is no public transportation, or access is otherwise difficult (hours, language barriers, technology barriers), we've failed our community. When looking to provide access - the "access" points need to be more than the literal, physical location and considerations on the inroads (no pun intended) to the access are achieved.
5. Strongly Support					Some of these goals seem like they are too easy to overreach and wind up costing everyone more to support a small population or to provide a non-essential service, such as indoor sports facilities. Transportation done right could make a huge difference. I'd like more bike paths and mass transit to reduce dependence on private vehicles. This would reduce parked cars and traffic while increasing accessibility and
5. Strongly Support					Comment on Goal HC8, Strategy #2, Add in language that speaks to "partnering" with federal, state and local organizations to identify, target and pursue collective land conservation and public access goals. Strategy #2 speaks to using these programs for funding but it should also mention that partnering to achieve goals is also important.
5. Strongly Support					Since the population of age 65 and over will be increasing significantly over the next decade, it would be helpful to have a senior transportation system that is reliable, timely and cost effective for seniors to get to their health appointments and care centers without having to rely solely on family members or neighbors.
5. Strongly Support					I'm favor of recycling, but I'm not sure the level of effort and cost that goes into our recycling program is actually providing an equal payout to the environment.
5. Strongly Support					All of these are directly related to the development rates allowed by the county. The more residential development allowed by the county, the higher the costs of providing services will become. The county needs to cap the levels of residential development and focus on providing and improving services to the existing population.
5. Strongly Support					I'm confused by these questions, wouldn't everyone be for these ideas? It would be more important for us to rank them if it comes down to what we'd want to pay taxes for.
5. Strongly Support					I support the movement to study/implement reallocation of police funds to other government agencies funded by the AA County to better achieve social and racial justice.
5. Strongly Support					The old volunteer fire service needs to be laid to rest and public safety needs to be funded to a comparable organization of equal size, and call volume.
5. Strongly Support					There seem to be a lot of facilities for seniors but I don't know if that's because they're in high demand or there is a surplus. I support making elderly care more accessible but that can also stem from more access to in home care and recreational activities for those who cannot afford to live at a facility. Making that service more affordable and promoting nursing education would help.
5. Strongly Support					Fewer sports fields, more natural trails, comfortable outdoor gathering places, access to Bay, mountain biking trails, biking facilities like pump track & dirt jumps
	4. Support				Comment on Goal HC8: Recommend inclusion of public access "opportunities" in addition to "facilities." Not all public access needs to be supported by a facility. Passive access opportunities and spaces should also be improved upon and enhanced.
5. Strongly Support					The library system is a great path to engaging the community and provide helpful programs and tools. Though some of the issues may be in the state of facilities and physical equipment, the rest is on the lack of awareness. Most people, young and old do not associate the library with anything other than a place they had to go to in school to do required research once. There is no connection to the programs for kids or services for adults. Tackling the issue of awareness should be kept in mind when conducting any transformation.
5. Strongly Support					I hope the goal in the future is to reopen the senior centers. The seniors need socialization as much as the children.
5. Strongly Support					Need more schools in rapidly developing areas of Glen Burnie off Marley Neck Blvd.
5. Strongly Support					No entity should allow any school to be filled over its state rated capacity (SRC). Given that developers may proceed with their plans after six years regardless of seat availability in their zoned schools in Anne Arundel County, this causes extreme overcrowding and constant redistricting. Schools with SRC of 95% are listed as closed, but all this means is that a developer has to wait. <a href="https://www.aacounty.org/departments/county-council/legislation/bills-and-resolutions/an-ordinance-concerning-subdivision-and-development--adequate-public-facilities--school-utilization-chart">https://www.aacounty.org/departments/county-council/legislation/bills-and-resolutions/an-ordinance-concerning-subdivision-and-development--adequate-public-facilities--school-utilization-chart</a> Each county has different rules governing development. Here's state info--page 28-29 <a href="http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Documents/adequacystudy/SchoolSizeReport071615.pdf">http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/Documents/adequacystudy/SchoolSizeReport071615.pdf</a>
5. Strongly Support					Integrate agricultural production & consumption, e.g., composting, farmers markets, community outlets for food, drink, other amenities.
	4. Support				I'm happy with the solid waste recycling and so glad they recently added a place to bring food scraps.
5. Strongly Support					how can we get citizens to SERIOUSLY recycle MORE? so much is thrown into the landfill
5. Strongly Support					More emphasis on trash reduction, elimination of single use plastics, and minimizing the export of trash to other jurisdictions.
	4. Support				
	4. Support				
					I would like to see AACo do more to support their police department first and foremost. I would also like to see AACo repair and maintain current sports fields instead of making new ones to lie in disrepair. AACo needs to take care of what they have first and then decide if they need more.
	4. Support				

GOAL HC10: Provide a high level of emergency medical care, fire protection, police protection, emergency management and an all hazards response to all residents and visitors of the County.					Comment
5. Strongly Support					Would like to see housing developers set aside space for recreational needs of the new residents as opposed to burdening existing parks and open space. For example: provide space for a ball field instead of carving ball fields from an existing passive use park at some later date. Would like to see more land preserved for passive use
	4. Support				
	4. Support				NEED MORE SPECIFICS ON GOALS
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
		3. Neutral			
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
		3. Neutral			
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					Stop building more parks on the Mayo Peninsula!
5. Strongly Support					I would like to strongly support the county's efforts to make high quality recreational facilities, but at this point Rec and Parks is trying to shove 5 new parks and 1100 new parking spaces onto the small Mayo Peninsula. These opportunities should be spread around the county and not be such a huge burden to the scant infrastructure of our small peninsula.
5. Strongly Support					



GOAL HC10: Provide a high level of emergency medical care, fire protection, police protection, emergency management and an all hazards response to all residents and visitors of the County.					Comment
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					These questions were horribly written. You CANNOT have AND in your questions. People may agree with part but not all of the statement and you'll end up with incorrect information to move forward.
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					It is not right to require answers to any questions that I chose to not answer. I am not neutral to those questions. I am uninformed or I do not agree with the wording. Please consider any neutral response I have made in the goals survey to be a protest that my response was forced in order to submit answers to goals on which I am informed
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					New Cape St. Claire firehouse
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					HC-7: What is "culturally relevant" food? Define. ; HC-8: define "a diverse range." and give examples
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					

GOAL HC10: Provide a high level of emergency medical care, fire protection, police protection, emergency management and an all hazards response to all residents and visitors of the County.					Comment
5. Strongly Support					Implement better than you did with the Edgewater/Mayo Small Area Plan 2002
	4. Support				
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				It would be great if the residents of the Mayo Peninsula would have a safe option to bike along the roads and help connect the various neighborhoods.
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				No new buildings; promote communal responsibility for safety; several years of training for police; no military-style training for police; no increase in police budget; decriminalize drug use; increased mental health services; promote Food Not Lawns
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					EDUCATING THE PUBLIC FAR MORE ON THE HIGH RETURN METHODS AND VALUES, I.E. BOTH MENTAL & PHYSICAL WELL-BEING, OF EXPLORING, ENJOYING, AND PROTECTING OUR FORESTS, STREAMS, AND RIVERS,
		3. Neutral			
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
5. Strongly Support					
		3. Neutral			
5. Strongly Support					
	4. Support				
5. Strongly Support					I would like to see more community based health clinics for all ages.
5. Strongly Support					Goal HC5 - Suggest adding low income
5. Strongly Support					

## **Appendix D. Compilation of Official Public Comments**



Chartered 1708

Office of the Mayor  
Gavin Buckley, Mayor  
160 Duke of Gloucester Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

March 28, 2022

Jessica Leys, Director  
Department of Recreation & Parks  
1 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Director Leys:

On behalf of the City of Annapolis, I would like to extend my support for Anne Arundel County's 2022 update to the Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). I understand that the preparation of a regular update to the LPPRP is a prerequisite for participation in Maryland's Program Open Space (POS) Local, a program that has been, and will continue to be, tremendously beneficial to Annapolis.

As Mayor of Annapolis, I have prioritized several significant parks and recreations initiatives, many of which overlap with County priorities including trail connectivity, public water access, and natural resources conservation. One of these initiatives, the preservation of the last remnant of Carr's Beach, recently secured funding needed for acquisition through a remarkable collaboration between the City, County, State, and Federal Governments, and private partners.

In reviewing the draft LPPRP, I would like to highlight a few of the other signature projects that we are working to advance now and in the coming years and which are included in the plan and will require continued support:

**West East Express:** This project will improve and expand the City's Poplar Trail pedestrian and bike trail which follows the former WB&A railroad corridor. This enhancement would extend the trail on the East and West ends to become a "spine" that connects the Historic District (State, County and City facilities) to significant locations in the County, including the Westfield Annapolis Mall, Anne Arundel County Medical Center, and the City's Waterworks Park, and joins the County's South Shore Trail. While key segments of property in the expansion area are still to be acquired, planning and conceptual schematics are recently completed through State grant funding. Real estate transactions and detailed design are ongoing.

**Capital City Gateway Park:** This project will create a new waterfront park in Annapolis at the Rowe Boulevard gateway to the City and the State Capital campus. Undeveloped property for this park is located on College Creek and is adjacent to both the U.S. Naval Academy and St. John's College. The western half of this vacant parcel is owned by the State of Maryland; the eastern half is owned by the federal government as part of the

U.S. Naval Academy installation. The State is willing to transfer their portion to the City. Discussions continue with the Navy for their portion of the site. The Capital City Gateway Park would fulfill an equity goal for the City of Annapolis, particularly for nearby low-income neighborhoods that have been historically cut off from the water.

**MD 450 / College Creek Connector Trail:** This project will help to extend the B&A Trail into Downtown Annapolis by creating a safe and inviting pedestrian and bike trail along MD-450 from the Navy Bridge to King George Street and St. John's College, and along College Creek adjacent to the Bloomsbury Square community, and alongside the historic St. Anne's cemetery. From the cemetery, the trail will connect to the start of the West East Express at People's Park where a new trailhead is envisioned. This trail will not only help to fill a keep gap in a regional trail loop in the County but also connect diverse populations and low-income neighborhoods to water access points and the B&A Trail. The portion of this project from the Navy Bridge to St. John's College is currently in the design phase, funded by both the County and State, and the other portions are going through a feasibility study funded by the State.

**Truxtun Park Restoration and Enhancement:** This project will address a variety of critical needs at the largest park within the City. With its great variety of resources including the Pip Moyer Recreation Center, the recently opened Kenneth Dunn Municipal Pool, the recently renovated Tennis and Pickleball Courts, the recently renovated playground, the boat launch, and miles of wooded trails, the park serves a great diversity of residents. However, more work is needed. The riparian area of the park which serves trail users, and provides significant habitat for other species, suffers from extreme erosion which is not only a hazard to hikers but is also depositing sediment into Spa Creek. The trail network must be reconfigured in the short term until the steep slopes near the water can be stabilized and reinforced. Near this area, the park's boat launch facility, boat trailer parking lot, skate park, and maintenance facility are connected but not well coordinated. A plan is needed to make better use of this space including identifying a better long-term maintenance facility location. Lastly, adjacent to Truxtun Park, the City is working to improve that natural area at Hawkins Cove with improved water access and community amenities. While not part of Truxtun Park currently, this area is already linked to the park via informal trails providing important access for public housing residents to reach the park and we would like to formalize this connection.

These are just a few of the important initiatives that the City is working to advance with County and State support. A recently launched Public Water Access Plan, in partnership with the National Park Service, will also soon be identifying other opportunities for equitable recreational investments. I look forward to continuing our work with Anne Arundel County's Department of Recreation & Parks to make the Anne Arundel County the 'Best Place for All'.

Respectfully,



Mayor Gavin Buckley  
City of Annapolis





2664 Riva Road, P.O. Box 6675  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
410-222-7450

**Gustav S. Kurtz, Jr.**  
**Chair, Planning Advisory Board**

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February 7, 2022

The Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive  
Anne Arundel County  
Arundel Center, P.O. Box 2700  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

RE: Planning Advisory Board Deliberation on  
the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks  
and Recreation Plan

Dear County Executive Pittman:

The Planning Advisory Board (PAB) is a citizen advisory board created by §532 of the Anne Arundel County Charter. Under § 533 (b) of the Charter, the PAB shall make advisory recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Officer and the County Council relating to various matters including Master Plans.

The PAB met on January 12, 2022 and received a briefing on the Draft of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). The briefing summarized the Plan in the following parts:

- Demand for parklands and recreational facilities based on need, proximity, and equity
- County priorities
- Agricultural goals and objectives
- Natural resources and land conservation goals and objectives

After the staff presentation of the Plan on January 12, the PAB opened the public hearing. The Board recognized one member of the public to provide oral testimony. The PAB accepted written testimony from January 12 through January 24, 2022, during which no testimony was submitted in reference to the PAB. The Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP) is accepting public comments on the LPPRP from December 2021 through February 2022. DRP staff provided an overview of written comments received to date during the PAB meeting on January 26, 2022.

The PAB deliberated about the LPPRP during a public meeting on January 26, 2022. The PAB voted unanimously 6-0 to recommend the LPPRP move forward to the County Council for review and adoption. The PAB commended DRP on the quality of the plan, the analysis it provides, and the direction it sets for the future. The PAB also commended DRP for achieving accreditation from the National Recreation and Parks Association's Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA). There are currently only 192 accredited parks and recreation agencies in the United States and DRP is one of them. The PAB provided the following specific recommendations for revision to the Plan.

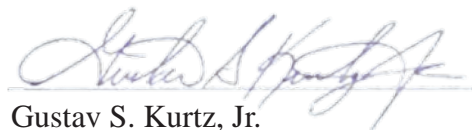
### **PAB Recommendations for the Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan**

1. Addressing Equity Concerns. The PAB supports the LPPRP analysis and recommendations to address equity needs, including Guiding Policy 4. To more clearly show how proposed investments address areas identified as high need in the Equity Analysis, the PAB recommends amending Table III-15 to note projects located in areas of high need.
2. Sustainable Design. The PAB recommends that the language on green building in Guiding Policy 7 be strengthened. Revised language should be along the lines of the following: *As new facilities are built or existing facilities rehabilitated, integrative design and application of sustainable design principles will be applied to ensure the efficiency and resiliency of our investments into our County inventory.*
3. Public-private partnerships. The PAB recommends that DRP actively pursue public-private partnerships in development of recreation facilities as stated in Guiding Policy 10.
4. Climate Resiliency. The PAB suggests that the recommendations related to climate resiliency (page 123 of the LPPRP for example) be highlighted in the Executive Summary of the document to give them more prominence.
5. Mayo Peninsula Parks Master Plan. The PAB recommends that as the projects located in parks on the Mayo Peninsula move forward that the Mayo Peninsula Parks Master Plan be reviewed and refined to ensure that environmental resources receive appropriate levels of protection.
6. Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program. The PAB supports the County's agricultural preservation efforts and recommends that the Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Programs regulations, created in 1999, be updated as soon as possible (page 7 of LPPRP).

The PAB appreciates the opportunity to provide you with its recommendations on the LPPRP.

If there are any questions regarding these comments, please contact Michael Stringer in the Office of Planning and Zoning, [pzstri20@aacounty.org](mailto:pzstri20@aacounty.org).

Sincerely,



Gustav S. Kurtz, Jr.  
Chair

CC: Matt Power, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive  
Lori Rhodes, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Land Use, Office of the County Executive  
Matthew Johnston, Environmental Policy Officer, Office of the County Executive  
Laura Corby, Administrative Officer, Anne Arundel County Council  
Members of the Planning Advisory Board  
Jessica Leys, Director, Department of Recreation and Parks (DRP)  
Erica Jackson Matthews, Deputy Director, DRP  
Bruce Bruchey, Capital Projects Manager, DRP  
Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Planning and Zoning Officer, Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ)  
Christina Pompa, Deputy Planning and Zoning Officer, Planning Division, OPZ  
Cindy Carrier, Planning Administrator, Long Range Planning Section, OPZ  
Michael Stringer, Planning Board Administrator, Long Range Planning Section, OPZ

March 03, 2022

The Honorable Steuart Pittman  
Anne Arundel County Executive  
Arundel Center, P.O. Box 2700  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

RE: 2022 Land Preservation, Parks  
and Recreation Plan

Dear County Executive Pittman:

The Recreation Advisory Board (RAB) is a citizen advisory board created by §550 of the Anne Arundel County Charter. Per the Charter, the RAB shall make advisory recommendations to the Director of Recreation and Parks relating to recreation programs and services and facilities for any age group, cooperative programs with private organizations and schools and rules for the preservation of order and decency in connection therewith.

The RAB met on February 10, 2022 and received a briefing on the Draft of the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP).

The RAB deliberated about the LPPRP during a public meeting on March 2, 2022. The RAB voted to recommend the LPPRP to the County Council for review and adoption. The RAB commended the LPPRP on the quality of the plan, the analysis it provides, and the direction it sets for the future. The RAB provided the following specific recommendations for revision to the Plan.

The Board recommended that the Plan address the impacts of global climate change and consider responses such as providing more shade in outdoor recreational areas and altering park operating hours to permit expanded post-sundown use.

The RAB recommends that the County Executive and County Council examine the staffing and pay structure for the Department of Recreation and Parks and provide for expanded staff and increased compensation. The Board further recommends that the County Executive and County Council review the role of the Department of Recreation and Parks as the lead agency for the School-Age Child Care program.

Additionally, the RAB recommends that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources revise its Guidelines for future LPPRPs to include the following:

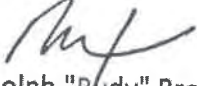
- Inventories of recreational resources lands consider if such lands are truly publicly accessible or if public use is handicapped by limited operating hours or other factors.
- Local surveys are conducted in a manner such that the data would be statistically valid.
- Agricultural Land Preservation is not included in the LPPRP.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to provide you with its recommendations on the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

The Board appreciates the opportunity to provide you with its recommendations on the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

If there are any questions regarding these comments, please contact DRP Deputy Director Erica Jackson Matthews.

Sincerely,



Rudolph "Rudy" Brown, Jr.  
Chairman

CC: Members of the Recreation Advisory Board

Matt Power, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive

Jessica Leys, Director, Department of Recreation and Parks

Erica Jackson Matthews, Deputy Director, Department of Recreation and Parks

Attachments



February 28, 2022

Recreation Advisory Board

Re: LPPRP

A Few General Comments:

1. Definitely believe R&P is under resourced to fully fulfill the needs of the County.
2. I believe finding a better mix of enhancing existing park/facilities and building new ones should be considered.
3. I noticed a need for additional dog parks.
4. I have been an employee of the Intelligence Community for almost 40 years. For at least the last 15 years or so, we are sent a Climate Survey each year. I believe the overall return rate of the survey is about 30% (in a good year). Various leadership levels make very honest attempts to get more participation each year and mostly to no avail. I don't think there is a good answer for how we get more participation, and I believe that those that truly care about the subject (IC Climate, R&P, etc.) will be the ones most likely to answer the survey.
5. As we have spoken about many times, there are a large number of parks/rec facilities that lack or need additional amenities (restrooms, parking, trails, field space, etc.) that should be a major focus going forward.

Bill Sabia

**Anne Arundel Recreation Advisory Board Recommendations**  
**Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan**  
**March 2, 2022**

**Principle Issues/Concerns**

**Resource Shortage.** The Plan must substantially address the resource shortage that prevents AA county residents from access to a modern Recreation & Parks system.

- According to the NRPA average operating budget for R&P is \$81 per capita. With a population of 580,000, AA County would budget \$47 million annually. The FY 22 operating budget is \$40 million. Almost 20% below the national average.
- According to the NRPA, the average R&P agency has 8.2 FTEs per 10,000 residents. By that standard AA county needs 490 FTEs. The FY budget shows 133.

The applicability of national averages can be examined & debated ( for example the substantial commitment of resources to childcare & golf are probably atypical). But there seems little question that AA County has under resourced the function.

**The Plan should confirm and acknowledge the gap. It should examine remedies and propose solutions, including an action plan for resolution.**

**The Quality of Citizen Input is Questionable.**

- The demographic profile of respondents to the online survey is inconsistent with the characteristics of the county population, the geographic distribution of responses is not consistent with actual population distribution ( while each district represents 14% of the population. Response rates varied widely). The reliance on internet-based citizen input would also likely skew results.
- Caution is urged in regarding this input as accurate proxy for public demand for facilities, programs & services.
- The warning about the use of this data (pg 60) should be highlighted.
- Online Town Hall meetings drew fewer than 200 citizens.
- **The staff is to be commended for extraordinary outreach efforts. The explanation for the discrepancy between resident characteristics and survey participants is the application of State required methods. None the less, the results ought not be assumed to reflect resident input. A statistically reliable**

survey needs to be conducted prior to establishing county policy and authorizing public spending.

#### Mission & Focus

- The Department's role as manager of childcare services ought to be considered. While a most important public function, it seems odd to be housed in a parks & recreation agency. It requires significant resources to staff and manage. The LPPR seems an opportunity to determine where this function best serves the public
- 
- Agricultural Preservation seems an odd function in recreation & parks. The County government's programming to address the needs of an industry is fragmented across multiple agencies. The LPPR seems an opportunity to determine where this function best serves the public.

#### Conflict between Recreation and Conservation

- Although not included in the LPPR, County policy is poised to vest substantial responsibility for implementation of the Green Infrastructure Plan in Recreation and Parks. Increasingly, conservation goals are consuming scarce recreation funds. Acquisition/ conservation of additional properties needs to be thoroughly evaluated and acquired with a clear identification of its public purpose and a plan to achieve that purpose.

#### Use of Existing Resources

**Guiding Policies:** The LPPRP's policies to guide capital project recommendations are provided below in summary form:

- Make the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing parks a priority over the development of new parks.
- Fixing parking deficiencies at existing parks and recreation facilities is a priority.
- Increase facilities supply by enhancing existing assets rather than developing new assets.

#### Equity Evaluation

- ADA deficiencies need an aggressive remedy plan. 15 years is unacceptable.

- **The use of a five-mile proximity standard in Dist. 7 and a .5-mile standard in the other 6 Districts Not Equitable. While it may be more difficult or expensive to meet the .5-mile standard, declaring it equally equitable is wrong.**
- **The conclusion that AA County has an abundance of recreation space by comparing acres per person to a national standard is misleading. Significant public recreation lands are not readily available for public use. A quality needs to be applied to accurately measure adequacy of recreation/park facilities.**

**What's Missing?**

**Acknowledge & plan for climate change impacts**



February 22, 2022

Dear Ms. Jessica Lays:

The Commission on Disability Issues thanks the Department of Recreation and Parks for the opportunity to review and provide comments on the 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan. The following are comments that the Commission brought forward as part of the plan review:

- The plan encompasses a variety of considerations for people with disabilities, but it is unclear as to whether the plan meets the needs of the people with disabilities ages 18-64 in Anne Arundel County. We would be happy to assist the Department to identify community partners that could provide access to people with disabilities to gather their feedback regarding recreational needs and wants.
- We recommend that people with disabilities aggressively use non-digital means to ensure that feedback is provided during the planning process.
- We recommend that people with disabilities be included in the planning process from the very beginning to ensure that any plan created that impacts people with disabilities is intentional and inclusive.
- We recommend changing the title of "Special Needs Programs" to "Programs for People with Disabilities." Most adults with disabilities don't describe themselves as having "special needs."  
There has been a significant shift in how society refers to people with disabilities. For example, Rosa's Law signed into law in 2010 removed the term mentally retarded and replaced it with intellectual disability in the federal statute.
- We recommend that the plan address accessibility issues when designing or making new spaces as well as address current accessibility concerns that conflict with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For example, there are locations in the county that have paths that use gravel or no sidewalks leading from parking to pavilions. These kinds of barriers restrict access to the parks for people with disabilities.

We look forward to the completed plan that is inclusive to all Anne Arundel County residents and offer our partnership to ensure this.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Collins-Ihrke".

Katie Collins-Ihrke

Interim Chair, Anne Arundel Commission on Disability Issues

Executive Director, Accessible Resources for Independence

[kihrke@arinow.org](mailto:kihrke@arinow.org)

(443) 713-3914



**Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission**  
**Feedback on 2022 Draft LPPRP**  
**February 16, 2022**

It is vitally important that the LPPRP emphasize the planned county trail network and its essential role in both recreation and transportation. The LPPRP should reference and align with Move Anne Arundel!, the in-process Walk & Roll Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan and the Anne Arundel Trail Network. These are widely identified in county presentations to MDOT, our transportation priorities letter, public budget presentations, etc. The majority of our trails construction funding comes from the federal *Transportation Alternatives* program and this has the potential to grow under the federal BIL program. The trails portion of the LPPRP should align with these other plans, the county CIP and our grant pursuits. AACDRP must embrace Active Transportation as central to its mission.

Specific Comments on Draft LPPRP by pg#

3 Change this paragraph concerning trails:

*The County owns and manages seven long-distance trails in partnership with communities and state agencies. Most of these trails have sections still to be developed. Three new trail systems are planned: the South Shore Trail, South County trail system, and Patapsco Greenway Trail. An 80- mile paddling trail on the Patuxent River is managed by the Patuxent River Commission. Annapolis has a 19-mile trail system, partially implemented, known as the Colonial Annapolis Maritime Trail.*

TO THIS:

The County contains about 55 miles of paved shared-use paths which are used for walking, biking and other micromobility devices for both recreation and transportation. These trails are owned by the county, City of Annapolis and state agencies. New trails such as the Broadneck Trail and South Shore Trail are being built as well as smaller connectors to connect more homes and destinations. The envisioned [Anne Arundel Trail Network](#) provides a vision for connecting these trails into a network that includes connectivity to schools, transit, employment centers, recreation, other destinations and neighboring trail networks to our south, west and north. These trails are vital not just for recreation but for achieving the goals of the *Move Anne Arundel* transportation plan which calls for reducing our dependence on cars by providing safe, convenient access to walking and biking routes, especially in our town centers. There are also a growing number of natural surface trails including Bacon Ridge and Waterworks Trails.

6 Funding --- Add: Much of the design and construction of trails is funded by state and federal grants such as the Maryland Kim Lamphier Bikeways Program and the federal Transportation Alternatives Program. There will be increased federal funding and new

programs for trail-building including the RAISE program. The county and state must work together to streamline its capacity for securing and executing grant projects to take full advantage of these growing sources.

12 Include references to *Move Anne Arundel* and the in-process 2022 Pedestrian Bicycle Master Plan update called *Walk & Roll Anne Arundel*!

24 Add reference to *Move Anne Arundel!* and the specific goals for changing mode share countywide and in the town centers. The trail network plays a vital role in achieving these goals

37 Add : The county's Pedestrian / Bicycle Master Plan *Walk & Roll Anne Arundel!* is being updated in 2022 and will encompass the entire county with a strong focus on the role of trails for human-powered transportation.

49 This map needs some updating to align with the AA County MDOT Transportation Priorities Letter, the AA Trail Network and our grant pursuits. For example, it does not show a planned connection from Rt 175 to Arundel Mills to BWI Trail. Also, the Annapolis Colonial Maritime Trail is NOT a trail, it is a ROUTE and should be referred to as such. We should only show actual trails as per the bike layer in the county GIS. In Annapolis it will be important to show planned extension of the Poplar Trail and connections from the USNA Bridge to Clty Dock and to the stadium as well as other connectors.

49 Include a description and map of the envisioned Anne Arundel Trail Network as shown below and at this site: [www.annearundeltrailnetwork.org](http://www.annearundeltrailnetwork.org)

50 City of Annapolis: 15 miles of Colonial Trail complete is not true. (It is a route which includes sidewalks and roads; neither of which are trails.). The AACBAC shows about 3.5 miles of trail in the Clty (Poplar, Spa Creek, Stadium)

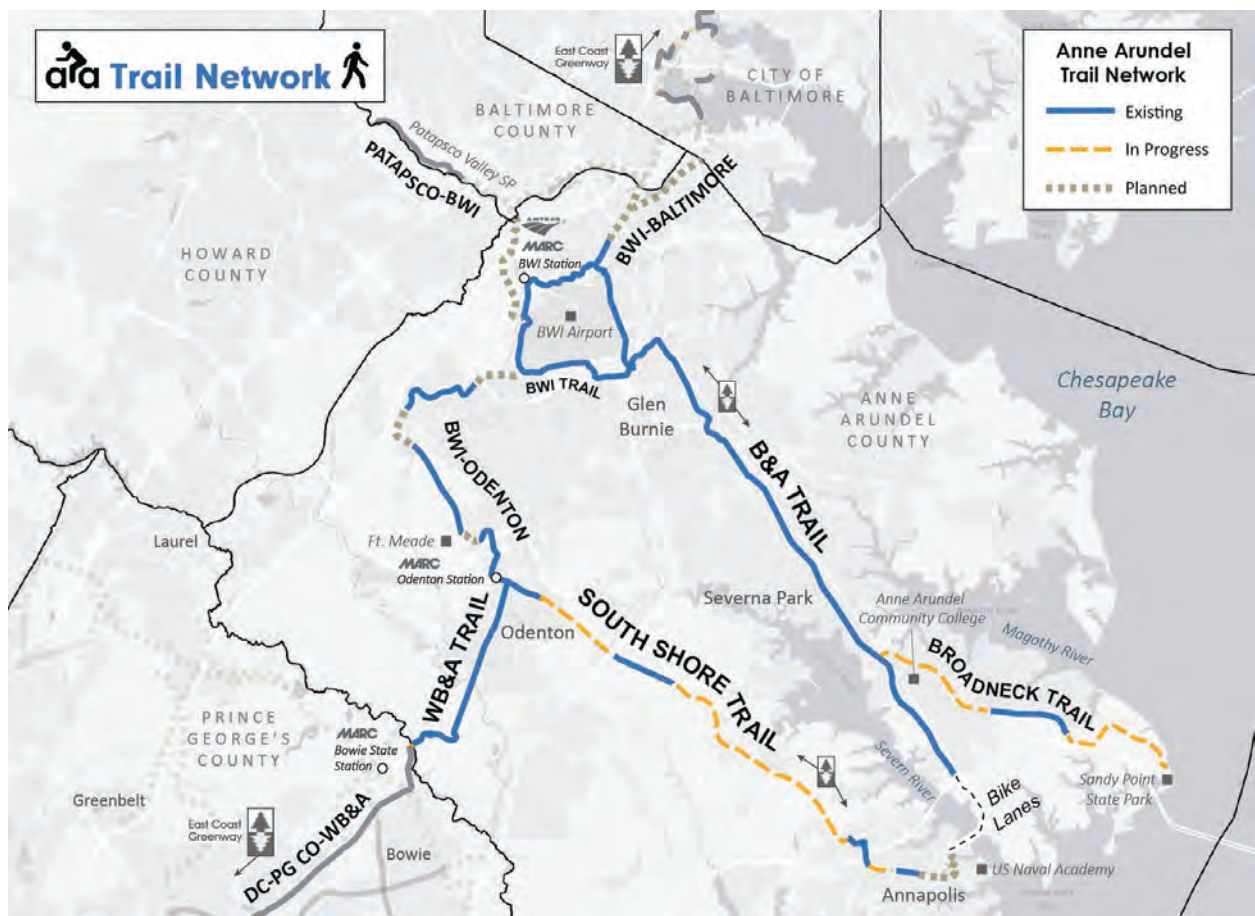
65 Incorrectly shows all of the Colonial Maritime Trail as a TRAIL. Only show the actual trails as on the AAC GIS Bike Layer.

75 TRAILS add: and the buildout of the Anne Arundel Trail Network and connectors

80+ I do not think we are committed or even plan \$13M for Rt 2 hiker biker bridge. We have already completed the B&A Connector instead. We should not list this bridge. Instead the list should include completion of the connection from BWI to Baltimore and also filling other gaps like Arundel Mills to BWI, and USNA Bridge to Stadium and King George St. We could also include a generic line called " Trail Connectors" Also, City estimate of \$3M to complete trails seems too low. This list of projects should align with our CIP, AATN and current view of trail priorities.

Appendix C and throughout: Under Public Engagement and throughout the plan, Trails should not have been classified under Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses but rather they should be their own category. Multi-use trails are a major and expanding recreational and transportation amenity in the County and should enjoy a classification of their own. Survey respondents would not look to Natural Areas and Outdoor Courses as an obvious place for trail advocates to record their preferences.

This envisioned trail network should be referenced and included in the plan:





**Anne Arundel County Youth Advisory Council**  
**Chair, Conor Curran**

February 25th, 2022

## **Youth Advisory Council: 2022 Land Preservation, Parks & Recreation Plan Comments**

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Director Lays,

As someone who frequently visits our county's parks, this plan excites me. Taking a look at the priorities for recreational activities I agree that natural areas and outdoor courses should be our top priority with the geographic nature of our county. I would have liked to see community places as a higher priority as they can sprout important community connections.

The multi-generation centers are an exciting opportunity for our communities to connect and share experiences. Fostering those relationships can have tremendous impacts on our county's youth. That's what we should be aiming to build at our park facilities.

I appreciate that the LPPRP is consistent with development plans in our county and state. Expanding greenways, open space, rural areas, and the Priority Preservation Area is important to keeping the green characteristics that our county has. Protecting our environment is vital to our fight against climate change. I'm excited to see this plan being implemented upon the approval of the County Council.

Sincerely,

Conor Curran

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Conor Curran".

(He/Him/El)

443-764-5358

ccurran.aaco@gmail.com

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